

Moscow regards new Warsaw leader as Poland's last chance

Western diplomats believe Moscow has issued a clear warning to Warsaw that the upheaval in Poland will no longer be tolerated. The appointment of a new Polish Prime Minister is regarded by the

Kremlin as the last chance for Poland to put its house in order. Mr Stanislaw Kania, the Polish party leader, said yesterday that if the "chaos continued", Russian patience might run out.

Ample warning of intervention

From Michael Rinyon, Moscow, Feb 10

The appointment of General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish Defence Minister, as his country's Prime Minister, is seen here as the last chance for the Warsaw authorities to bring Poland back to normal before the Soviet Union feels obliged to intervene.

Western diplomats believe the Russians have given the Poles a clear warning that they have reached the limits of tolerance—and have urged the Polish authorities to take a tougher line against the independent trade union movement and dissident groups.

This may have prompted the resignation of Mr Jozef Pinski as Prime Minister. Moscow may not have been consulted about this choice of successor, though the Kremlin will clearly approve the appointment of a Soviet-trained general in the expectation that he will be more decisive in ending the chaos.

As the tone of Soviet reporting on the Polish crisis becomes daily more threatening, it is clear that the Russians regard the situation as little short of a disaster. But they are aware of the enormous political, military and economic costs of open intervention, and appear to be hoping that the situation can still be relieved by the Polish party leadership.

Matters have already gone so far beyond what were previously regarded as the thresholds of Soviet tolerance—and so many false alarms have been given of an imminent Soviet invasion—that it is difficult to know when the Russians will finally prompt intervention and what form this would take.

Western diplomats have suggested that Moscow may have given the Poles a time limit to sort out their house in order, and that the Russians would prefer to wait until after the Soviet Party Congress over, they would have no compunction in taking action if it was felt that Soviet interests were threatened.

The overriding interest, as in the case of the Soviet ambassador to East Berlin, is to ensure that the Polish Supreme Court is a member of the Warsaw Pact.

He spoke of the heavy Soviet casualties in liberating Poland at the end of the Second World War, and said it was "understandable that we cannot behave indifferently towards what is happening in Poland today and for what reasons".

Ironically the Russians gave a warning last summer that the logic of events in Poland would inevitably lead to the present chaos. Moscow appears to have had a good understanding of the Polish mood and circumstances, but—because of outside constraints and the lack of any direct Soviet influence—was unable to let matters there take their course.

Nearly all Moscow's gloomiest predictions have come true, and accusations being levelled by the Soviet press accurately reflect the intense concern of the Kremlin.

The main charge is that Solidarity, the independent Polish trade union organisation, has set itself up as a political opposition to the Polish Communist Party, and cannot be trusted to confine itself to union activities. The Russians say the organisation is influenced from outside by anti-Soviet forces.

The official Tass news agency maintains that Solidarity is conducting "deliberate and organised subversive activity". The Russians regard Warsaw's acceptance of Solidarity demands to be incompatible with communist ideology. These demands are the dismissal of local officials deemed corrupt or hostile to Solidarity, and the registration of a new branch of the union organisation.

According to Soviet orthodoxy only the party has the right to change its officials, however corrupt, or approve new appointments. The Russians regard Warsaw's acceptance of the demand to replace officials in Poland's southern provinces as a capitulation—signalling a loss of the party's monopoly of power and thereby setting a dangerous precedent.

The registration of an independent union for rural workers is an even greater challenge to the Soviet conception of a communist state. According to ideological purists, private farmers are tolerated on sufferance—to organize them into a union, even an association, as the Polish Supreme Court

ruled today, would be to set up a coordinated private sector.

The supremacy of the Polish party has also been challenged by the decision to allow Solidarity access to the media, which the Russians have long regarded as a vital instrument of party propaganda.

A Tass report last night said Solidarity had "stepped up its subversive political agitation among the population". The Solidarity leadership use the mass media to disseminate the calls to maintain "strike readiness", trying to aggravate the situation.

Solidarity has also made demands that strike at the jealously-guarded system of privileges for senior party officials and state employees, privileges which the Russians consider essential for the stability of the system.

Other demands put forward by Solidarity members, such as a relaxation of censorship and investigations into the activities of the Polish security apparatus, are seen in Moscow as a dangerous challenge to the communist system.

Above all, however, it is the seemingly endless industrial unrest that has provoked Soviet anger. The Russians believe that each concession by the Polish Government in its negotiations with Solidarity has only led to further demands, and that the country's workers must now be made to see that the party will not be forced to return to the shop floor and get on with their jobs.

Moscow is hoping the new Government will take a tougher line, that the Polish party will put its house in order, and that the anarchy on the Russian doorstep will end.

If not, the Soviet Union has already given the world ample notification of its intention to act to secure its vital interests and those of its East European allies.

Jaruzelski profile, page 7

Leading article, page 15

Miners set for all-out battle over closures

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers are preparing for an all-out confrontation with the Government over the threatened closure of many pits and the loss of up to 30,000 jobs under a coal board scheme to meet the impact of the economic recession.

The miners had their worst fears confirmed yesterday when they met Sir Derek Ezra, the coal board chairman, for talks on the industry's future at a time of falling demand and rising output. They were told that capacity should be reduced by 10 million tonnes a year through the closure of inefficient collieries and the exploitation of highly mechanized "super-pits".

That could involve the closure of up to 50 mines over the next two to five years as the industry seeks to bring output in line with demand, and union leaders will tomorrow draw up their battle plans against the closure programme.

The scale of the cut is closing the ranks of the politically-divided national executive of the miners' union. Mr Joseph Gormley, its moderate president, said that if a joint approach to the Cabinet for more state aid fails, then a pitched battle of the men in industrial action would be ordered.

"We will go to them and ask if they are willing to support us in national strike action as a result of Government policy," he said. The whole policy of importing coal while eight million tonnes produced in British pits were being put into stock was economic madness," Mr Gormley said. "I am not going to allow the industry to be raped in this way."

Mr Arthur Scargill, left-wing president of the Yorkshire miners, who are already planning a strike over plans to shut Orgreave colliery, near Sheffield, said: "Mrs Thatcher has been out to get the miners since 1972 and 1974 (the years of their national strikes). If she throws up the gauntlet, I can assure you the one thing we will pick up is this war."

In the first instance, the miners are expected to seek a reversal of government policy through talks with ministers, arguing that circumstances have changed since the 1980 Coal Industry Act, which phases out operating subsidies over a three-year period, was passed.

But the union privateers expect to get little from the Cabinet by argument, and the miners' leaders are already pushing for a ballot authorizing the union to take strike action in defence of jobs. The highly emotional issue of pit closures takes on extra significance this year in the build-up to the election of a new national president.

In his four-point plan put to union leaders of the miners, pit deputies and colliery managers yesterday, Sir Derek Ezra argued that the industry must change its attitude and accept a balance during the current recession by maximizing sales, expanding output at pits with access to viable reserves and diminishing capacity where realistic reserves are exhausted or where, for geological or other reasons, there can be no long-term contribution.

Stocks of about 37 million tonnes this spring (including those at power stations) are at a record level, and the coal board could not add to the coal mountains unless it would be "extremely difficult" to achieve further price rises, even in line with general inflation, and the board therefore had no option to adjust supply by reducing capacity.

Increasing supplies in London were described by one coalfield leader as "disorderly, angry and frustrated".

Gunmen kill UDR man

A part-time member of the Ulster Defence Regiment was shot dead at his workplace in Londonderry yesterday. Mr Samuel Montgomery, aged 37 and unmarried, was shot by two men at a timber yard in Strand Road.



Susana Kleeman, aged 10, reading yesterday from her play "Perfect Pigs", which has been chosen for production at the Royal Court Theatre Upstairs in London. Report, page 5.

Fish buyers seek cover from police

By John Roper

Grimsby fish merchants sought police protection yesterday for their drivers because of what one described as something "like a riot" when picking up fish from the docks.

It was claimed that there were up to 16 pickets at each entrance and that they stopped consignments of cod from Scottish ports from entering the dock.

The fishermen had mounted pickets in protest at cheap imports which they say are keeping prices for British fish low.

Grimsby fishermen policy linked to the way off. At midnight Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food, announced a new agreement with the fishermen, claiming that under EEC free trade rules, they should be allowed to fish in British waters "right up to the beaches".

Mr Walker is arguing for almost exclusive rights for the British fleet within the 12-mile limit around the British coast. Under the new EEC policy, the 12-mile limit would remain in force for 10 years. The French claim that rolling allows them to fish up to the beaches from January 1982.

British fishermen want a deal, but Mr Walker said that he will veto any transaction which does not secure the prosperity of the British fish industry.

Demands include a 50 per cent exclusive around the British coast, limited to vessels under 80ft and an exclusive 12-mile limit off the east and west coasts of Scotland, the British side of the Irish sea and down the west coast from Bridlington to Margate.

More than 2,000 British boats are staying in port in protest against the dumping of cheap fish in Britain. Fishermen at a frozen fish factory at Grimsby walked out in support of the fishermen yesterday after Dutch codling arrived for processing.

Fishermen at North Shields yesterday were reviewing their position after an incident on Monday in which they claim a lorry delivering British fish charged through a picket line.

Photograph, page 2

Brussels deadlock, page 6

Mr Jenkins defines his policy for new party

By Fred Emery, Political Editor

As Mrs Shirley Williams confirmed last night that she would be leaving the Labour Party "very soon" and forming a new party, Mr Roy Jenkins, one of her leading social democrats, defined their practical policy. He advocated government intervention to bring down the rate of sterling and once it was lower, for Britain to join the European Monetary System (EMS).

In a speech to the American Chamber of Commerce in London, Mr Jenkins predicted a major political realignment within six years. He also claimed that the "policy of government" would be "talk down" the pound, the markets as the moment did not believe the Government would intervene. Secondly, interest rates should be lowered significantly and, thirdly, conscription should be considered, on foreign capital inflows, as in Switzerland and West Germany.

Mr Jenkins admitted that none of these steps was a panacea, but in combination they could get the pound lower and set the stage for Britain to join the EMS.

In the first instance, to enjoy maximum flexibility, Britain might use the EMS's wider 6 per cent margin, which Italy used. Mr Jenkins suggested that, while Mrs Williams, appearing in a conference of the EEC Commission, Mr Jenkins insisted that a soaring pound had helped intensify manufacturing decline in Britain.

This, Mr Jenkins said, was the government's policy on the international market, partly out of hope, partly out of conviction that we are at a crossroads.

Continued on page 2, col 1

Brandt move to save party unity

From Patricia Cjough, Bonn, Feb 10

Herr Willy Brandt, the chairman of the Social Democratic Party (SPD) was today preparing a five-point programme to save the party's unity and the government coalition amid the worst internal crisis since it came to power.

The plan will be discussed tomorrow night at a meeting of the SPD executive summoned by Herr Brandt to heal, above all, the growing rift between Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, and dissident sections of the party.

The left wing, in particular, feels that many of the Chancellor's policies go against the real wishes and principles of grass-roots members. They are at odds with him over a series of issues, including nuclear energy, plans for arms exports to Saudi Arabia and China, and the modernisation of Nato medium-range nuclear weapons.

The disputes have been heightened by conflicting interviews given by leading figures which led last night to an open clash between Herr Brandt and Herr Herbert Wehner, the SPD's Bundestag floor-leader.

Herr Wehner gave a warning that the party was in danger of splitting. At a meeting of the party presidium in Berlin last night, Herr Brandt called for an end to the "irritating" public comments.

But no sooner was the meeting over, than Herr Brandt himself broke the truce.

Another issue which could have intensified the problems was defused tonight to a certain extent by a compromise. The Hamburg city government voted by seven to six to hold up the building of the controversial Konrad nuclear power station for a further three years.

A previous decision by the city SPD, which governs alone in Hamburg, to withdraw from the project was a "serious psycholo-

Swiss help American journalist to leave Iran

From Tony Allaway, Tehran, Feb 10

A new group of Iranian diplomats, enabled by the Swiss, have today agreed to let an American journalist leave Iran today after nine months in Iranian prisons.

Mrs Dwyer, aged 29, should have been deported yesterday after being convicted last week of spying charges. She was refused permission to leave by airport immigration officials because she had no passport.

She was shipped secretly into the airport this morning by three Swiss diplomats. She is a regular source of information on the flight to Dubai and was expected to accompany her to Zurich tomorrow.

There are still no signs that the four Britons imprisoned in Iran are near release. A highly confidential source said further talks with Iranian officials today produced no results.

No one is saying exactly what role is being played by Mr Terry Waite, the special representative of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

It seemed clear that Mr Waite was acting entirely separately from the efforts of Swedish and British diplomats here to the point of not even keeping them fully informed of developments.

With the vehement denial of reports by the BBC that Mr Waite was negotiating a swap of the four Britons with two Iranians jailed in Britain, it could be assumed only that there were some religious problems still to be sorted.

Closures feared, page 7

Farmers allowed association but not a union

From Desha Trevisan, Warsaw, Feb 10

The Polish Supreme Court today rejected a request to legalise a farmers' union but simultaneously announced that there would be no legal impediment to the farmers forming an association. The decision paved the way for a possible solution to the deadlock over the farmers' request to form an independent union which has been a cause of nation for several weeks.

Several thousand farmers gathered yesterday in front of the court building for five hours while the court was sitting. The decision puts off a final solution but Mr Lesz Walicki, leader of Solidarity, the free trade union organisation, called it a "draw".

"With calm and patience and soon, the workers, too, will bring an issue to a successful conclusion," he told the farmers. The farmers, in a good mood and patient mood, walked to the tomb of the

Unknown Soldier where they cheered the Polish Army, sang the national anthem, listened to a Roman Catholic priest, and then dispersed, in buses and on foot, to their villages all over Poland.

Yesterday, the Communist Party's central committee hinted strongly that the party would no longer tolerate political strikes. The Army also made a spectacular entry into the Polish crisis, with the appointment of General Jaruzelski, the Defence Minister to replace Mr Jozef Pinski as the Prime Minister. Mr Pinski's resignation did not come as a surprise as the Government came under strong public criticism for delays and hesitation in implementing the agreements with the workers signed last August. Under the new Government, the debate on the "disastrous twilight area" of growing numbers of private and illegal tapping.

Mr Stanislaw Kania, the party leader, left no doubt that the current tension represented a serious threat to Poland's independence.

[Mr Kania said in his speech to the central committee that Moscow's patience might run out. "In these difficult moments we have found understanding on the side of our friends, especially the Soviet Union. They understand us and are not pressing for our obligations. But they will not be in a position to understand us if the chaos continues", he said.]

Obviously Poland has been under strong pressure from its allies. There have been alarmist reports in the east European press and in East Berlin the Soviet ambassador said flatly this his country could not remain indifferent to the situation in Poland.

It was against this background that the central committee yesterday made the spectacular decision to entrust the Government to a soldier.

Sharp rise in pending figures for January

Central government spending continued to rise sharply in January. The month's plus of £1,744m was significantly lower than a year earlier, and consolidated fund expenditure was up by 29 per cent. The rise has been exaggerated by additional payments to local authorities but there are few signs of a drop in the growth spending which the Government had hoped to contain. However, monetary growth in January was contained to an estimated 1 per cent.

Resident Sadat puts alestinian case

The European Parliament President today urged Egyptian President Sadat to peace in the Middle East and the establishment of "a Palestinian state" after a transitional period as a "pragmatic development to stabilize the area". He was given a standing ovation.

Move to ban tapping for political reasons

A Conservative backbench MP is supporting an opposition amendment to the Telecommunications Bill which would require the Home Secretary to issue a warrant before telephone messages could be intercepted and would ban tapping for political reasons. During a parliamentary committee debate an MP attacked the "disastrous twilight area" of growing numbers of private and illegal tapping.

US defence cash plea

The Pentagon is reported to want an increase of about \$32,000m (£13,675m) in American defence spending over and above the record military budgets submitted by former President Carter for this year and next. The proposals are in line with military priorities outlined by President Reagan during the election campaign.

Wembley finalists

West Ham United play Liverpool in the League Cup final at Wembley on March 14. The East London club beat Coventry City 2-0 to win 4-3 on aggregate. Liverpool drew 1-1 with Manchester City to win 2-1 on aggregate.

Leader page 15
On Leathers, from Mr W. D. E. Foster, and others; Harman case from Dr J. E. Thomas; Mr Paisley, from Mr Nicholas Lines
Leading articles: Poland; President Sadat's speech; Canadian High Commissioner Features, pages 8, 14
Welsh: Shanks on agriculture and the EEC; Bernard Levin has some initial problems; Philip Howard on Private Eye's 500
Sport, pages 10, 11
Cricket: Indian players' walkout in Test over umpire's decision; Rugby Union: Scotland are unchanged for Twickenham; Football: Players and managers criticise new points system; Golf: Rasthorpe's plans for 1981
Arts, page 12
Trevor Fishlock talks to Ben Kingsley, who plays Gandhi in Richard Attenborough's film; Pauline Stanger: *Edenborough Childhood*, by Tina Thompson
Business News, pages 17-22
Stock markets: Selective buying in a flat market again provided equities with further impetus but pits ruffled despite the banking figures being in line with expectations. The FT Index rose 4.5 to 453.5
Business features: David Hovson examines the growth of British television sales overseas
Business Diary: BLS advertising standards

Home News 2, 4, 5
European News 6-8
Overseas News 6-8
Appointments 20
Arts 12
Books review 12
Bridge 16
Business 17-22
Court 16

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Classified advertisements: Personal pages 24, 25. La crème de la crème, 25, 26

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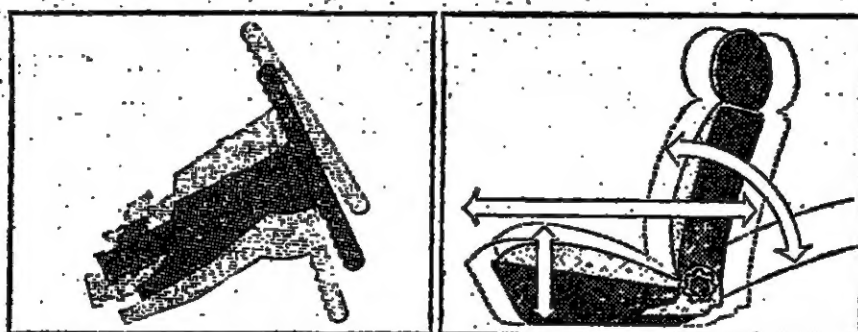
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HOME NEWS

BBC journalists get assurances on security reporting

By Kenneth Gosling

BBC unions are satisfied that their journalists are not prohibited from inquiring into all aspects of security in Britain. Union representatives met Sir Ian Trethowan, director-general of the BBC, yesterday and a joint statement by the National Union of Journalists and the Association of Broadcasters and Allied Staffs, which had asked for the meeting after allegations of censorship of a Panorama programme on the security services, said they were pleased that a constructive approach had been taken to the matter.

The union also noted that the original material was to be shown as two programmes, one on security, the other on privacy.

It is understood that the union representatives were given assurances that an order to a reporter not to make contact with certain sources was a mistake and would not happen again, and on the way in which Sir Ian had approached members of the journalistic team working on the original programme.

The BBC also made a statement setting out Sir Ian's explanation to the unions of the background to the affair. He said the normal editorial process of the BBC operated through several levels and that on occasion editorial matters of special sensitivity were referred to him as editor-in-chief. It had always been recognized in the BBC's formal guidelines that although programmes dealing with security issues were proper matters of journalistic

inquiry, they required reference to higher levels.

In this case a 100-minute programme was made after the project had been approved last summer; it was seen by himself and several senior colleagues. There had been no question of anyone "passing" the programme before he had seen it. Mr Alasdair Milne, managing director, BBC Television, then indicated that BBC 1 did not want to carry a special programme and that it wanted the material condensed into a normal 50-minute Panorama.

Sir Ian had made some editorial comments on details of the programme and asked for it to be strengthened at certain points.

He suggested that one sequence, dealing with the serious but different question of privacy, could be transferred to a separate programme.

On the Government's role in the matter, Sir Ian said Panorama had at the outset written to a number of leading figures in the security services, past and present, seeking their co-operation.

"The Government replied on their behalf indicating that no co-operation would be forthcoming because it believed that such a programme could damage the security services." But no one had challenged the BBC's editorial independence.

The programme dealing with the accountability of the security services would go ahead; Sir Ian said it would be seen as dealing responsibly with a matter of legitimate public concern.

Ashmolean attempt to buy ancient Greek vase fails

From Our Correspondent

Oxford. The Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, has failed in its attempt to buy an ancient Greek vase, despite raising enough money to do so.

The amount of £211,850 made by the vase's owner at a Christie's auction last July, but he has refused to sell it to the museum.

The 14th vase, known as the Northampton Amphora, dates from the sixth century BC and was sold by the Marquess of Northampton, whose family had owned it for nearly 150 years. An export licence was deferred to enable the Ashmolean to match the price paid by the successful bidder, whose identity has not been disclosed.

The museum raised the money before the deadline last November, mainly with the help of promises of grants from the Victoria & Albert Museum and the National Art Collection Fund. Now that money is being released, about £10,000 donated

by Oxford colleges and Oxford University is being returned and the museum is writing to 400 private contributors to ask whether they want their money back.

Mr David Piper, the museum director, said: "It is a great strain to raise so much money and then to be told you cannot use it. It will disappoint so many people who answered our appeal."

"It has been made clear to us that it was a point of principle to the owner. He would not have accepted it even if we had made a much higher offer."

Mr Piper said that the museum had not been officially informed who the new owner of the vase was, although it had "a pretty shrewd idea". He would not say whether the owner was English or foreign, or why he wanted to export the vase.

The museum does not know where the vase is, but the owner will now be unable to apply for an export licence for 10 years because the Ashmolean bid for the vase.

Heart transplant operations to continue

By Nicholas Timmins

The continuation of the heart transplant programme at Papworth Hospital was approved yesterday by the Cambridge-shire Area Health Authority.

No formal decision was taken, but the authority received a report on the programme saying that, waiting lists had not increased as a result of the transplant programme.

The report notes that after the Panorama television pro-

gramme on brain death last October, the initially favourable public reaction to heart transplants has diminished.

Mr Robert Jefford, deputy area administrator, said the meeting took note of a proposed four-year evaluation of the transplant programme, funded by the Department of Health, which would study its effects on the hospital and provide guidance in assessing the priority of transplants.



Sir Robin Day with his sons, Daniel and Alexander, and (right) Miss Gwen Berryman, MBE, who played Doris Archer on BBC radio, after a Buckingham Palace investiture yesterday.

Trade body expels car dealer

By Peter Waymark

Motoring Correspondent

Raymond Way Motors of Kilburn, north London, has been expelled from the Motor Agents' Association, the garage trade body, for allegedly failing to deal with complaints about second-hand cars.

Two motorists who bought used cars from Raymond Way Motors complained to the association about their poor condition. The association tried to investigate, but it is said the garage ignored its letters and telephone calls and failed to attend a disciplinary hearing.

The association said: "Our code of conduct obliges our members to cooperate with our conciliation service on customer complaints and Raymond Way Motors lamentably failed to honour this undertaking."

The decision to expel Raymond Way Motors was taken unanimously by the association's national disciplinary committee of 12 senior members. The garage has been told that it must not display the MAA membership sign or issue any document bearing the association's badge or name.

Raymond Way Motors said yesterday it was appealing against the association's decision but would make no other statement.

Police searching for arson motive

Stopped clock clue to blaze that killed 13

By Stewart Tandler

Crime Reporter

A charred and blistered wall clock is among the debris taken from the South London house where 13 young people were killed in a sudden, early-morning fire. Running 15 minutes slow, the clock stopped at 5.30 am on January 18. It would have taken about four minutes for the growing blaze in the front parlour at No 439 New Cross Road, to reach and stop the clock.

If all the calculations are right, just before 5.30 a wide pool of paint thinner on the carpet was ignited. Flames licked at the net and drape curtains. The fire rapidly spread upwards through the house, ending in panic and terror, an all-night party for two coloured teenagers.

Today the event is marked at Brockley Park police station by an ever-growing pile of statements—400 at the last count. On the wall in Commander Graham Stockwell's office the house is blocked out in solid black on the grey-and-white of an enlarged Ordnance Survey map.

The red-brick Edwardian station is normally in the care of a single policeman but more than 50 officers under Mr Stockwell are working there. Elsewhere a fire brigade investigation team is at work.

There remains little doubt that the fire was started deliberately but while fresh information has brought clarification of some evidence it tends to pose new questions.

Mr Stockwell's men have traced more than 180 people who were at the party. Some were gatecrashers. There are possibly a further 10 of 12 people who were at the party.

Detectives face finding people like "VW" or "Stevie" Brother, with little more information than that.

Thirty cars and their drivers near the house have been traced, including the man who was seen outside the house at the time of the fire before speeding off in his car. He came forward to say he saw the fire in the front room, pushed open the unlocked front door and raised the alarm before driving to a police station nearby to report the blaze.

Police believe that was the man who was apparently throwing something at the house. He was in fact shielding himself. In the rush to answer the fire call his name was not taken at the police station.

No one inside the house remembers seeing anything unusual in the front room on the ground floor before the fire. The room was used intermittently throughout the night. When the fire started people went into the room and believe they saw only the curtains on fire.

The scientists' evidence shows that that room was the seat of the fire even though there is no explanation of how the paint thinner got there. It is a rare material for incendiary attack. A search of the debris has produced no container.

Above all there remains the question of motive. The police are still searching for a Rover car with black youths seen near the house and a white car with smoked windows driven four to six times past the house by a fair-haired white.

The party was attended almost entirely by young blacks. In an area of some racial tension the fire has been interpreted as a racially inspired attack.

Twenty candidates nominated for London's vice-chancellorship

By Diana Geddes

Education Correspondent

About 20 names have been put forward as candidates for the vice-chancellorship of London University from next September. They include Lord Annan, the present vice-chancellor; Lord Flowers, rector of Imperial College; Mrs Shirley Williams; Professor Ralf Dahrendorf, director of the London School of Economics; and Dr Bryan Thwaites, principal of Westfield College, London.

The appointments committee, consisting of university academics, senior members of convocation and members of the university court, meets for the first time today to make recommendations on the appointment of London's first vice-chancellor to combine the posts of academic and administrative head of the university. The successful candidate will not be announced before March 2 when the appointments com-

mittee has its final meeting. Any member of the university may put a name forward; the candidate does not even need to agree to his or her nomination.

There is still doubt whether Lord Annan, whose term of office ends in September, would be willing or able to stay on for a few more years. He will be 65 next Christmas, the university's official retiring age.

The new statutes, which the vice-chancellor will be appointed, stipulate that he or she will be appointed for a period of not less than two and not more than four years, with the possibility of re-appointment for a further four years. Until now, the vice-chancellor has been appointed for one year at a time.

Lord Flowers, who chaired the committee of inquiry into London's medical schools, is considered a front runner, but there is some feeling that an internal candidate would find it difficult to take the impartial

view required over the next few turbulent years of the university's history.

The university is also in the midst of electing a new chancellor, a largely ceremonial title held for the past 25 years by Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother until her resignation last December. More than 35,000 votes from members of the university's convocation have been received so far.

Polling closes on Saturday. Any member of convocation the 63,000 former graduates the university is eligible vote. The last time there was a poll of convocation were 5,000 votes were received.

The three candidates for the chancellorship are Prince Anne, Mr Nelson Mandela, imprisoned South African nationalist, and Mr Jack Jon former general secretary of Transport and General Workers Union.

In brief

Cotswold direct rail link to end

Commuters are to fight a British Rail decision to end inter-city services on the Oxford-Worcester line through the Cotswolds, the route regularly used by Sir Peter Parker, BR chairman. Passengers will have to change at Oxford from May, 1982.

British Rail is replacing heavy diesel locomotives with lighter units because the track is wearing out and it cannot afford £1m to renew it.

Busmen march in fares protest

Three hundred busmen marched through Bristol city centre yesterday to demand the scrapping of fare increases. No buses have run on city routes since nine men were dismissed on Sunday for refusing to collect the new fares.

Press officers defended

Criticism of Whitehall press officers by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, has been rejected by Mr Francis Bockland, president of the National Union of Journalists.

Benny Goodman visit

Benny Goodman, the American jazz clarinetist, will visit Britain later this year to give a series of classical recitals at the Benson and Hedges Music Festival at Snape Maltings, Aldeburgh, Suffolk.

Jail inquiry head

Det. Chief Supt Kenneth Merton, of Scotland Yard, was appointed yesterday to investigate allegations of a drink, drugs and gambling ring at Wandsworth prison, south London.

Gary Glitter banned

Gary Glitter, the pop singer, was banned from driving for three years and fined £150 by magistrates at Witham, Essex, yesterday for a drink and driving offence.

£16m conference centre

Bournemouth council is to build a £16m conference centre with a sports hall, swimming pool and an exhibition hall seating 4,000.

Stormy passage likely for sick pay Bill

By Pat Healy

Social Services Correspondent

Continuing opposition from employers is expected to lead to a stormy passage for the Government's Bill to transfer responsibility for sick pay from the national insurance system to employers. The Bill, which is expected to be published tomorrow or Friday, is likely to be opposed in the Lords if it survives the Commons.

Further concessions offered to employers this week by Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, have not succeeded in persuading the main employers' body, the CBI, to call off its campaign against the Bill.

Expert calculations show that, at 1980 prices, the proposed add at least £35m to the annual public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR). That figure takes no account of any increase in the PSBR caused by extra claims on supplementary benefits from families with children who would receive less under the Bill's proposals than from national insurance.

The Bill will set the standard rate of sick pay for the first eight weeks at £35 a week instead of £30 as proposed in a Green Paper last year. But that amount would be paid at a flat rate to all sick employees, irrespective of their family circumstances.

It is acknowledged that a flat-rate payment will result in higher sick pay for single people, but less for people with children.

The £35m cost to the PSBR is based on the difference between savings from the proposals and the loss to the Government from reducing employers' national insurance contributions in return for the extra burden of having to pay sick pay.

The CBI is opposed to the scheme because it would redistribute resources from manufacturing industries, which have higher sickness absence rates, to service industries and become the compensation terms to employers for the extra burden are insufficient.

Campaign to give mentally ill the right to vote

By a Staff Reporter

A campaign to give the vote to thousands of disenfranchised mentally ill and handicapped people was announced yesterday at a meeting in the House of Commons by MIND, the mental health charity.

Mr Charles Irving, Conservative MP for Cheltenham and chairman of the all-party parliamentary mental health group, said it was a national scandal that under the law people in psychiatric and mental handicap hospitals did not have the right to vote.

He said there were probably more than 60,000 who needed little care but who had no other home. The fact that they were also disenfranchised was nauseating.

Under section 4, sub section 3 of the Representation of the People Act no one may use a mental or a mental handicap hospital as an address for voting purposes.

Mr Jack Straw, Labour MP for Blackburn, who chaired the meeting, said that creating an anomaly, because people in psychiatric wards of general hospitals, in geriatric hospitals or hostels could do so.

Vehicles offence terms too loose, police say

By Marcel Berlins

Legal Correspondent

The new offence of interference with motor vehicles in the Criminal Attempts Bill would not adequately fill the gap left by the abolition of the "sus" laws, police witnesses told the Commons special standing committee on the Bill yesterday.

In contrast to most witnesses to the committee, which was holding its third and last sitting on the Bill yesterday, the police said that the new offence, far from being unnecessary or raising the same difficulties as "sus" would allow a number of potential criminals to go free.

A memorandum to the committee from the Metropolitan Police said: "We are concerned that the general public will not be afforded protection from housebreakers, street robbers and pickpockets."

The Law Society took the opposite view: the new offence of interference with vehicles "seems to be too uncertain in application and could create the same problem as arose with 'sus'."

Oxfordshire bows to RC pressure on pupils' fares

By Our Education Correspondent

Oxfordshire County Council yesterday reversed a decision to stop paying school bus fares for pupils attending Roman Catholic schools. The council had threatened to take the council to court.

At present, Oxfordshire pays school bus fares for about 750 pupils to attend Roman Catholic schools at an annual cost of £123,000 and the council had recommended that should be

phased out from Sept. There was an immediate protest from Catholic parents.

The Roman Catholic commission for Birmingham, into whose area Oxford falls, said that if the went ahead, it would be a Secretary of State to direct council to provide free port for children at church schools. If the refused, it would take to the High Court.

County stops school meals

From Our Correspondent

School meals are to be stopped in Lincolnshire with the loss of 1,500 jobs, the county council announced yesterday.

From March only those children entitled to free meals will be catered for in primary schools, and secondary pupils face the same at the end of the summer term.

Announcing the decision, Mr Peter Heneage, the education committee chairman, said the National Union of Teachers was pricing its move out of jobs by refusing to new contracts offered council, he said.

Last year the council, which had a cafeteria service union opposition to end school meals, the union served on the council registered an industrial dispute over the new c offered to its members.

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ROYAL NAVY OFFICER

HOME NEWS

Challenge to quality inquiry on mortgages

Lucy Hodges
The Provincial Building Society in Bradford, the ninth largest in the country, said yesterday it would challenge in the courts the right of the Equal Opportunities Commission to investigate its mortgage lending practices.

The society said it did not discriminate against women; therefore it could not accept the findings of the commission's investigation. It denied that its lending terms were discriminatory in any way.

The commission announced yesterday that it would be formally investigating the society to see whether its policy and procedures for dealing with mortgage applications from couples or mortgages discriminated against women.

It said it would examine, in particular, instructions to staff which the commission believed result in women being treated on a less favourable basis than men, and treatment of women's earnings in assessing their ability to pay mortgage instalments.

The society said it treated applicants as people. "The society has tried to discuss its current lending terms with the commission without success," it said yesterday.

A spokesman said that if a couple approached the society for a mortgage, the sum of their incomes would be multiplied by 1.8 to assess how much they could be lent. The company had abandoned its policy of multiplying the higher earner's income by 2.25 and adding that to the lower to establish how much could be lent.

The commission's investigation is expected to take a year, but it finds evidence of discrimination it can issue a non-enforcement order, which is enforceable in the courts. The commission receives a large number of complaints about mortgages. This is the second highest area for complaint in its goods, facilities and services section.

Local authority investigation: In 1978 the Equal Opportunities Commission asked the Consumers' Association to investigate whether building societies discriminated against women (Robin Young writes). Of 169 building society branches visited, the association found that more than one third did discriminate by using lower multiples on women's incomes. Building society head offices denied there was any discrimination.

Gang stole mint cash after smashing way into train, jury is told

From Tim Jones
Cardiff
A jury at Cardiff Crown Court was told yesterday how with daring and courage a gang smashed into coaches carrying bullion from the Royal Mint in South Wales as the trains travelled to London.

The raids had been planned for months, if not years, and the stakes were extremely high, for some of the wagons carried more than £500,000, it was stated.

Mr. Llewellyn Christopher-Jones, for the prosecution, said the raids, over a three-year period, had certain elements of a "wild West" adventure, except that the gang used cars instead of horses.

James Dowling, aged 47, of Feltham, London, and Bernard Moxham, aged 51, of Denham, Buckinghamshire, both pleaded guilty to three charges of theft totalling more than £36,000. Mr. Moxham's brother Arthur, aged 49, of Hayes, London, admitted one charge of theft involving £36,000 and two charges of handling stolen money totalling £1,700.

George Robert Common, aged 37, of Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, pleaded not guilty to three charges of theft involving £36,000.

Mr. Christopher-Jones said that on the first raid Mr. Common and Mr. Bernard Moxham boarded the train at Bristol Parkway station, broke the security padlock on one of the wagons, and threw 18,700 of 50 pence pieces in bags on to the verge at a stretch of track where the train was forced to slow down. They jumped from the train and loaded the bags into Mr. Common's car which he drove to Newcastle.

Security was tightened and the wagons were loaded door to door on the flat bed trailers, counsel continued. In the next raid the gang tried to cut into a wagon with a power saw. The attempt failed. The saw was recovered from a farm near Newcastle, where it was kept by Mr. Common.

On the second raid counsel said, the gang used crowbars and axes to smash into a container. The trial continues today.



An urban eyesore that has disappeared: Landore, two miles up the valley from the city centre.

Wasteland devastated by copper fumes reclaimed in pace-setting project Swansea gives new life to its blighted valley

By John Young
Planning Reporter
In the middle of the Tawe valley, two or three miles from the Swansea waterfront, lies a big copper waste tip. It has a sort of eerie beauty and since it is the last of its kind in the valley, local opinion is divided on whether it should be left as a memento to the city's murky and malodorous past.

In the early nineteenth century Swansea seemed set to emulate such salubrious resorts as Brighton and Scarborough. With its superb sandy bay, steep hills and mountain backdrop, it had obvious attractions for those who built the elegant town houses, of which a few survive.

Within an astonishingly short time the "black gold" mined from the narrow valleys to the north changed its character irrevocably. Ships laden with ore from all corners of the world streamed into the docks, and by 1891 there were no fewer than 137 metal processing plants forming the greatest industrial concentration of its kind likely to be seen.

A century ago nearly three-quarters of the world's refined copper production was concentrated in the lower Swansea valley. The poisonous smoke and fumes destroyed vegetation, creating a nightmarish landscape that fascinated and appalled visitors.

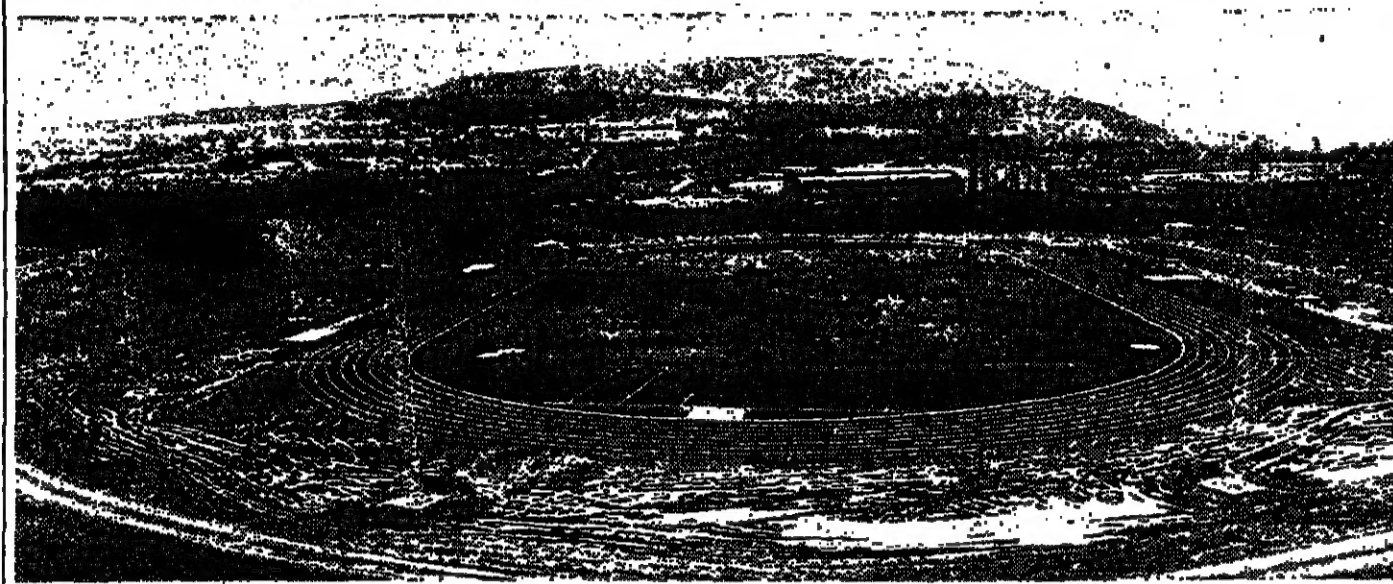
Changing techniques and patterns of world production gradually made the processing plants obsolete, and the last two shut a few months ago. In 1974 the city council began reclaiming nearly seven miles of the valley, the largest single area of industrial dereliction in Britain.

The project is divided into three main parts. At the seaward end of the valley the disused docks, some of which had been partly filled in to make way for a new abandoned urban motorway, are being dredged and landscaped to provide a marina and other boating facilities.

It is hoped to build a barrage across the mouth of the river to prevent ugly mud banks being exposed at low tide.

The central section is in many ways the most striking, consisting mainly of parkland, burgeoning heath and woods where until recently nothing would grow in the polluted soil. It includes a new athletics track, the second largest in Britain.

The third section, furthest up river, is to be a light industrial estate, part of which has been designated as one of the new government-authorized enterprise zones where investors will be granted special tax incentives and relative freedom from planning controls.



The new athletics track built on land so polluted until recently that nothing would grow.

Girl aged 10 makes her debut as playwright

By Martin Huckerby
Theatre Reporter
A north London schoolgirl aged 10 is to have *Perfect Pigs*, her first play, given a professional production at the Royal Court's Theatre Upstairs next month, as part of the 1981 Young Writers' Festival.

There were 330 entries from people aged up to 18, and the short play by Susana Kleeman, of Hamilton Terrace, St John's Wood, was one of four selected for production. The quartet will be performed nightly from March 11 to 23.

Susana's play, *Perfect Pigs*, is described by the theatre as an hilarious account of a family of guinea pigs, who include Boris, a bossy communist guinea pig, Elvira, who is God-fearing, and Edward, who is not very bright.

The Royal Court said it was an astutely written funny play. The staff had scarcely been able to believe that it had been written by such a young girl.

Susana said yesterday that the idea for the play came from her mother, who suggested attributing human thoughts to the family's two guinea pigs. *Perfect Pigs* is very much a comedy. "I could not write a serious play: it would be too boring," she said.

She likes writing poems and stories, but she had never tried to write a play before. Once she had started working on it: "I began to know the characters as friends." The difficulties diminished and she completed the play, which will last for about half an hour.

There is one and a half: her two guinea pigs have died.

The other winners are: Helen Slavin, aged 14, from Letchworth, whose play, *Detention*, is about the relationship between two young people; Tony Newton, aged 18, from north London, who wrote *Start Again*, about a young man returning home after a two-year absence; and Nick Davies, aged 20, from Burton upon Trent, who wrote, at the age of 18, the play *Lid*, about a student doing a vacation job in a pie factory.

Two further works, *Hiroshima* and *Soldiers of Destiny* by Sean Brennan and *Soldiers of Destiny* by Tomas Bartlett, will be given readings during the festival, and on March 23 there will be readings of the best of the rest by the young writers.

Mr. David Sulkin, the festival organizer, said that this year there were more entries from younger children than from older teenagers.

Isolation of girls' borstal is deplored by MP

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent
No visits were made by probation officers or social workers to 29 per cent of the girls released in 1980 from Bullwood Hall, near Hockley, Essex, while they were in that borstal. The figure was the same for 1979.

Mr. Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office, gave the information in a written reply to a parliamentary question by Mr. Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Ormskirk.

No visit was made by family or friends to 13 per cent (23 per cent in 1979); and 16 per cent (20 per cent in 1979) had only one visit from relatives or friends.

Mr. Kilroy-Silk said: "It is small wonder that these girls find it so difficult to reintegrate into the community. Clearly the isolation of Bullwood Hall must be a major factor and yet another reason why it should be closed down. If a borstal is indeed thought to be necessary for girls, then it ought at least to be near to their homes and families."

Acquitted after judge's doubt on police threat

Richard Hill, aged 18, was cleared at Newport Crown Court, Gwent, yesterday of stabbing a policeman after Judge Powell spoke of lurking doubts that a detective threatened him into confessing. The judge ordered the jury to find him not guilty.

A year ago at Gloucester Crown Court Mr. Hill was jailed for three years when he was found guilty of wounding Police Constable Richard Page with intent during a confrontation between "Punks" and "Teds" in a Gloucester shopping precinct.

In October the Court of Appeal, led by Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, quashed the conviction, set aside the sentence and ordered a retrial.

The court was told that after an appeal by Mr. Hill's parents six teenagers had exonerated Mr. Hill and named another man.

Mr. Hill, of Lewis Avenue, Longford, Gloucester, claimed at Gloucester Crown Court that he confessed to the stabbing only because of threats from a detective sergeant.

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WEST EUROPE

Fish talks extend into third day after deadlock in Brussels

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Feb 10

Agriculture ministers of the European Community agreed here tonight to extend their crucial negotiations on a new fisheries policy into a third day, in an effort to bridge the wide gap still separating Britain and France.

Mr Peter Walker, the British minister, flew back to London tonight, but he returns to Brussels tomorrow to continue the talks. It seems likely that he will brief Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, on progress so far, and possibly seek new instructions.

Earlier in the day the talks had seemed to be heading for a certain failure after Mr Walker had rejected a compromise proposed by the European Commission.

He objected to both the content of the proposal, which he felt smacked far too much of French influence, and the way in which it had been presented by Mr George Kontogeorgis, the new and still inexperienced Greek EEC Commissioner for Fisheries.

The proposal was withdrawn and by evening tempers had cooled. Mr Gerrit Braks, the Dutch minister chairing the meeting, suggested that he and Mr Kontogeorgis should draw up a new proposal for discussion by ministers tomorrow afternoon. This was agreed.

The main task facing Mr Braks and the Commission is how to reconcile British and French views on the right of coastal states to reserve their waters wholly or partially for their own fishermen up to a certain distance from the shore.

Mr Walker insists that fishing within 12 miles of the British coast must be reserved permanently for local boats, though some foreign fishing within this zone where it is economically "vital" for the country concerned is conceded.

In addition, Britain wants areas in the Irish Sea and off the north of Scotland stretching out as far as 50 miles from the shore to be closed to all boats above 80ft in length, to give preference to local fishermen.

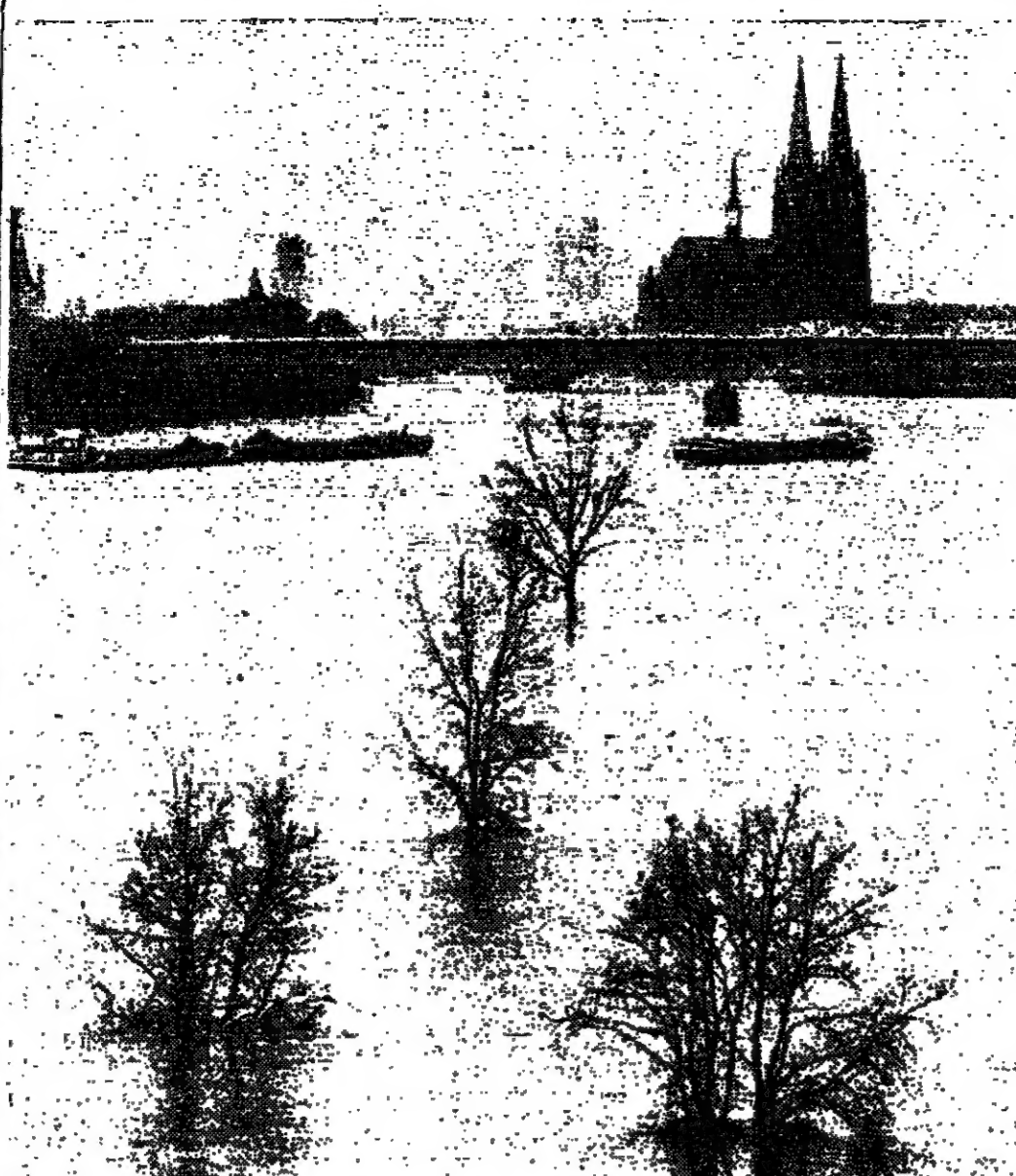
M Daniel Hoefel, his French counterpart, is willing to extend for another ten years existing restrictions on coastal fishing negotiated at the time of Britain's EEC entry, which will lapse at the end of next year.

These arrangements allow Britain to keep exclusive fishing rights within six miles of the shore, and to extend this to 12 miles along parts of the coast, subject to the "historic rights" enjoyed by the French, and some other foreign vessels.

The French estimate that they now catch about 45,000 tonnes of fish a year within 12 miles of the coast, mostly off the south and south-west of England, and want to maintain this catch, while Mr Walker wants a reduction.

Mr Hoefel insists that France is not prepared to accept any limit on boat size in areas beyond 12 miles, arguing that such a restriction would effectively exclude most of the French boats now fishing off the north of Scotland.

He claims that fishing off the north-east of Scotland, in particular, is "fundamental and essential" for France and he would not accept restrictions of any kind there. This, however, is precisely the area Mr Walker considers to be most in need of protection.



Cologne Cathedral standing above the flood waters of the Rhine.

Assassins halt nuclear plant construction

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, Feb 10

The company which is building a nuclear power plant near Bilbao has suspended construction until further notice after three years of terrorist attacks on its installation, which culminated last weekend in the assassination of the project's chief engineer, it was reported in Madrid today.

A spokesman for the firm, Iberduero, said the decision was made out of consideration for the "anguish" of fellow employees of Señor José María Ryan, the murdered engineer. After Señor Ryan was shot dead with one bullet in the back of the neck last Friday, the terrorist organisation ETA issued a statement threatening other Iberduero officials.

About 1,000 employees of the power company, which has already spent an estimated £400m on the Lemona plant, near Bilbao, staged a protest demonstration in San Sebastián today.

Those employed at the nuclear power site decided jointly last week, after Señor Ryan was kidnapped by the ETA, but before he was killed, that they would put the plant into operation without a decision on its future.

The attacks on Iberduero, which cost the lives of several workers and policemen in various incidents before the kidnapping of Señor Ryan, put the plant into operation without a decision on its future.

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ATLANTIC & Channel Islands Programme

New Prime Minister nominated in Spain

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, Feb 10

Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo was today nominated by King Juan Carlos to seek a majority in Parliament and so become Spain's next Prime Minister.

The present Government crisis was provoked when Señor Adolfo Suárez, Prime Minister for the past four and a half years, resigned on January 29. He personally proposed that his successor should be Señor Calvo Sotelo, who since last September has been Deputy Prime Minister in charge of economic affairs.

The King announced his decision after calling Señor Landelino Lavilla, Speaker of the Lower House, to the Zarzuela Palace. As required by the Constitution, King Juan Carlos had previously held a round of consultations with leaders of all the parties represented in the Cortes.

Today the King also informed the other main party leaders of his decision, including Señor Felipe González, head of the Socialist Party, the biggest opposition force.

As the king's nomination came one day after Señor Calvo Sotelo's party, the Centre Democratic Union (UCD), had ended its conference in Palma, Majorca, where his candidacy was endorsed by acclamation.

Señor Calvo Sotelo, a 54-year-old former banker and senior business executive turned politician, now has to present his programme to government to the Lower House and answer the Opposition's questions.

Under Article 99 of the Constitution, the candidate, alone and without any Cabinet colleagues named, then seeks a vote of confidence. He must

obtain at least 176 votes from the 350-member Lower House.

At present, the UCD has only 163 MPs and Señor Calvo Sotelo, like Señor Suárez before him, will require the support of three small regional parties from Andalusia, the Basque country and Catalonia, all of which agree with the UCD on the principal national issues.

Their attitude is not in doubt and the UCD party conference endorsed a pact with them. However, Señor Francisco Fernández Ordóñez, Justice Minister in the outgoing administration and leader of the Social Democrat wing of the UCD, has complained for the past two days of a swing to the right he believes now threatens the party.

The minister, who has indicated he will remain in Government as Justice Minister only to defend the text of a Bill to permit divorce in Spain, told Radio Nacional today: "We are going to help Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo inside the party, in government, and wherever else it may be needed if the programme presented is really worthwhile for society."

About 25 MPs are identified as Social Democrats in the UCD parliamentary party.

Señor Calvo Sotelo was today working on his programme. But no date has yet been set for the day in Parliament, perhaps next week, when a man known hitherto for his aloof, technocratic manner rather than for any parliamentary brilliance, will be called upon to display the qualities of a prime minister.

Señor González, the Socialist leader, who has made it abundantly clear that he would like to head the Government, will face the ablest orator in the Cortes.

IATA airlines to put up some fares from April

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

Increases of between 2 and 6 per cent in many air fares are to be introduced by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) from April 1, it was decided at a meeting in Geneva.

European fares will go up by 5 per cent, 2 per cent of the increase covering extra fuel costs and 3 per cent to cover other operating costs. There will also be increases in fares on the north Atlantic route, in Canada, where some fares are to go up by 10 per cent, parts of Africa, the Middle East and eastern Asia.

France and the Netherlands decided to introduce fuel increases of between 2 and 4 per cent from July.

Duke for funeral

The Duke of Edinburgh is to represent the British Royal family at the private funeral and burial of former Queen Frederika, which is to take place tomorrow at the royal estate of Tatol, north of Athens.

Although this concept of Jerusalem as an international city has been rejected by both Israel and the Arab countries, the number of countries, including the United States, Spain, and Belgium, continue to maintain consulates in Jerusalem based on the fiction of the Corpus Separatum.

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OVERSEAS

Bodies not blown up by Israelis, UN admits

New York, Feb 10.—Dr. Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, admitted today that Dutch United Nations peacekeeping troops had erred in reporting that Israeli forces had blown up the bodies of five Palestinian guerrillas killed in southern Lebanon on Christmas Day.

In a statement issued here, he said that a three-man military board of inquiry had "not found evidence to support the account" given to the press by the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (Unifil).

The Secretary-General, who arrived in Delhi today to attend a conference of the non-aligned movement, said the board had unanimously agreed that "Unifil soldiers had no intention of deliberately making incorrect statements".

Dr Waldheim added a note of censure saying he "deeply regrets that Unifil issued a press bulletin (on December 31) containing an incorrect statement of the facts".

The Israeli mission to the United Nations issued a statement saying it was pleased to note that, in the report, Israel's position had been fully vindicated.

The Israeli ambassador to the United Nations, Mr Yehuda Blum, had earlier sent Dr Waldheim what was described as a "sharp" written protest against the false information given by Unifil.

In extension of the false Unifil report, Dr Waldheim said the board of inquiry believed that "distance, angle of observation, smoke resulting from the explosion, and the fact that soldiers blew up the ammunition and equipment of the Palestinian armed elements, and the prevailing tension all contributed to the Dutch soldiers of Unifil reporting what they thought they had seen, rather than what actually occurred."

AP.

Mr Sadat argues the Palestinian case to European Parliament

From David Wood
Luxembourg, Feb 10

President Sadat of Egypt, addressing the European Parliament here today, called for additional security guarantees as a European contribution to a peace process in the Middle East and also for the establishment of "a Palestinian entity after a transitional period" as a positive development for stabilizing the region.

Mme Simone Veil, the Parliament's Jewish President, who still has her concentration camp number printed indelibly on her forearm, welcomed him as "a pilgrim of peace".

He said: "I have a promise to sacrifice my life for that role". That formed part of a peroration which earned him a standing ovation as he left the chamber.

President Sadat came out in strong support of the Palestinian cause, but took care to argue that the Palestinian entity he wanted established would also serve Israel's best interests.

He wanted a comprehensive peace that would serve all nations, and he urged repeatedly the right of self-determination and national dignity—a god-given right that could not be denied without an open invitation to extremism and obstructionism.

A Palestinian entity posed no threat to Israel. It was a guarantee to build bridges with other nations and prevent acts of violence and hostility. "We should like you to participate with us in persuading Palestinians and Israelis to accept mutual and simultaneous recognition," the President said to prolonged applause.

That, [Western Europe's] help in persuading Israelis and Palestinians to accept mutual and simultaneous recognition should be the start of any initiative he said.

But he downgraded the importance of a Jordanian role which has been much canvassed. The difficulty he said, involved Palestinians, not Jordanians, and although Jordan had placed its final settlement any solution ignoring the voice of a distinct people was "doomed to failure".

Jordan could participate a proper stage but not in the absence of or to the detriment of Palestinians. A preman Jordanian role would be complicating factor. And it is not a prerequisite for Palestinian role.

There need be no guess that President Sadat, the first state leader to address European Parliament during 22 years in existence, set great value on the political prestige and the diplomatic opportunity that today's invitation offered him.

Some here would add that the present inertia of the Ca David agreement was for him to explore new paths. He found new partners in the West. However, he emphasized: have not come here to sell Ca David.

For their part, an extremely warm reception to President Sadat suggest the Parliamentarians not only admired an unusual and national leader, but also bask in the interest and publicity occasioned. It is not of the European Parliament granted even a walking on in the dramas of higher diplomacy.

The day was marred only by the zeal of President Sadat's armed entourage. Miss A. Clwyd, a Welsh MEP, complained that she was str three times with a loaded gun on her way to the chamber. I other Labour MEP called behaviour of the guard "loutish".

Leading article, page

Troops fail to stop bombing and shooting in Lebanon villages

From Robert Flak
Beirut, Lebanon, Feb 10

The road from Al Tiri runs eastwards then turns north towards the Irish Battalion headquarters at Tibnine. But for the past year the Irish have been forbidden to use this road. For reasons that the 48th Irish Battalion says it does not understand—another unit from Dublin was here at the time—the road passed to the control of the Haddad militia and the United Nations vehicles now have to cross three miles of deep mud and then rock to the north to reach the old road outside Tibnine.

Al Tiri, however, is not the only village in which the Irish have failed to protect their civilian wards. In Bradchit, to the east, two houses were blown up in November. Major Haddad claimed they both belonged to leftists.

In mid-December another house in Bradchit was destroyed. A fourth house was then attacked by a squad of gunmen who shot three of the occupants.

While this was going on, an Irish unit billeted 50 yards away came under fire. By the time they had fired back and reached the fourth house, there were only bodies beside it. Mr Mansour's home was blown up a week later and the local doctor at Tibnine lost his house a few days after that.

Major Haddad's Israeli-supplied militia, who can look down on Al Tiri from the hill to the south, claimed that the Palestine Liberation Organization had blown up Mr Shaitar's house. The Shia Muslim villagers say that the major's men were responsible and recall that only a few days before the explosion Mr Shaitar had officially refused to hand over Al Tiri to Haddad's control.

Just outside Al Tiri, where the Irish have a machinegun post, there is another pile of rubble. This was the house of Mr Mansour Mansour, a shop-

keeper whose home mysteriously blew up on Christmas night. He is still in hospital.

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Dutch set date for Jerusalem consulate move

From Robert Schall
Amsterdam, Feb 10

The Dutch Consulate-General in Jerusalem will be transferred to Tel Aviv on April 1, a Foreign Ministry spokesman in The Hague announced today.

Originally the Netherlands had planned to maintain a consular representation in Jerusalem but it proved impossible to reach agreement with the Israeli government regarding the consulate-general's competence which the Dutch wanted to limit to west Jerusalem but which the Israelis wanted to include east Jerusalem.

The status of a number of consulates-general in Jerusalem is based on a 1947 Security Council resolution which declared the holy city a "Corpus Separatum".

Although this concept of Jerusalem as an international city has been rejected by both Israel and the Arab countries, the number of countries, including the United States, Spain, and Belgium, continue to maintain consulates in Jerusalem based on the fiction of the Corpus Separatum.

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Curfew in Hebron after Jewish student is stabbed

From Christopher Walker
Hebron, Feb 10

Heavily armed Israeli troops imposed a strict curfew on the commercial centre of Hebron today after a young Jewish settler was stabbed in the back as he walked through the narrow streets of the bustling markets.

The incident has renewed dangerous tension between Arab and Jews in a town which has over 30,000 Arab inhabitants, and which has traditionally been the focal point for intercommunal violence in the West Bank. Regarded as the burial place of the three patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Hebron is holy to both Muslims and Jews.

Today's attack took place in mid-morning close to the spot where another young Jewish settler, Mr Joshua Salama, was murdered by Arabs a year ago, and only a few hundred yards from the street where six Jews were murdered last May as they returned from Sabbath prayers.

By tonight, the authorities had still not named the victim of the attack, but it is known that he was studying at the controversial Jewish religious college, established by extreme Jews in the centre of Hebron. The college is situated in a battered former clinic which has been illegally occupied by Jewish quarters for nearly 20 years and which is guarded round the clock by Israeli soldiers.

According to an army spokesman, the unknown attacker escaped with the AK47 automatic rifle which the student was carrying for his protection. After the imposition of a daylight curfew, official data about the incident were kept to a minimum and no Arab living in the market area were permitted to leave their homes. The wounded Jew was rushed to a Jerusalem hospital, his condition, however, was described as not serious.

The attack has raised fears of possible violent retaliation against the Arabs of Hebron and neighbouring districts. Militant Jewish settlers who live in Kiryat Arba, the large West Bank settlement.

Mr Rachel Klein, a member of the ultra-right-wing Gush Etzion and spokesman for the Kiryat Arba settlers, told me: "People here are very upset and annoyed because they are convinced that enough has been done to ensure their safety after the murderous attack against Jews in Hebron last year."

Many foreign governments and moderate Israeli politicians have criticized the policy of permitting Jews to settle in the centre of Hebron, which has been an exclusively Arab town since the last Jews fled in 1952. Over more than 50 of the small community were killed.

But the government of Menachem Begin has refused to react to outside criticism.

Pope's request may dim the Vatican lights

From Our Own Correspondent
Rome, Feb 10

Litany may be expected to be dimmed a little in the Vatican after the Pope's appeal this week not to waste electricity. He was talking to the steering committee of the Union Internationale des Producteurs et Distributeurs d'Énergie Electrique.

He told them: "One should not permit the waste of energy which the Creator has placed at our disposal, when we hear in mind the shortages from which our world is suffering."

Italian party leader may boycott Soviet congress

From Peter Nichols
Rome, Feb 10

The Italian Communist Party is officially leaving in doubt the question of whether signor Enrico Berlinguer, its leader, will announce a decision to break with precedent and not attend the Soviet party's congress later this month.

Reports have been circulating here that the decision had already been taken and that the Kremlin has been informed that signor Berlinguer would send signor Giancarlo Pajetta, head of the party's foreign relations department, in his place.

the political situation in Italy presents a fact, it is reported, even in Poland and the continued Soviet occupation of Afghanistan have convinced signor Berlinguer that his presence would be embarrassing for both sides.

According to the official view at party headquarters, this is not a decision that signor Berlinguer would want to make on his own responsibility and he will have the chance next week to consult the national executive.

Signor Berlinguer has been present at every congress of the Soviet party since he took over the leadership.

OVERSEAS

President's son under investigation in California

From David Cross
Washington, Feb 10

President Reagan's eldest son is under investigation for allegedly diverting funds invested in a gasohol project to his personal use, the Los Angeles Times reported today.

Mr Michael Reagan, aged 35, who lives in Sherman Oaks, a suburb of Los Angeles, is alleged to have offered and sold stock in a corporation that, according to court documents, was planned but never incorporated.

The Los Angeles District Attorney's Office as well as the California Department of Corporations is investigating the matter. They are said to be seeking information on how the President's son used \$17,500 (about £2,000) given to him by investors who bought shares in his energy resources venture.

Mr Reagan has told investigators that the company, which he runs from his home, is involved in the distribution of gasohol, but also serves as a business for procuring alcohol for use as a fuel additive, the newspaper reported.

In addition to the alleged diversion of funds, investigators are also looking into possible violations of state corporate securities laws involving the sale and use of company stock. Neither Mr Reagan nor any of his associates have been charged with any crime.

Today Mr Reagan's lawyer, Mr Donald Wager, said: "I'm sure he (Mr Reagan) going to be exonerated by the time the investigation is complete."

Scandals involving family members of reigning American Presidents are not unusual. When Mr Richard Nixon was President, his brother, Donald, got into hot water over a loan he obtained from the late millionaire Howard Hughes.

But perhaps the best known case involving a President's close relative was that of Mr Carter's younger brother, Billy, and his connection with the Libyan Government.

The investigations into Mr Michael Reagan have shocked people in Washington and California who know the family. Married with his own family, Mr Reagan is considered the most solid of the President's offspring.

The others are extremely colourful and have made the front pages for a variety of reasons. President Reagan's oldest child, Maureen, aged 38, is an outspoken woman who has been twice divorced.

The President's other daughter, Patti, is an actress whose career has taken off since her father moved into the White House. His youngest child, Ronald, aged 23, is a ballet dancer, who apparently did not invite his parents to his recent wedding.

Pentagon said to want extra \$32,000m for US armed forces

From David Cross
Washington, Feb 10

The Pentagon is reported to want an increase of about \$32,000m (£13,675m) in American defence spending over and above the record military budgets submitted by former President Carter for this year and next.

According to officials in the Defence Department and in the defence industry quoted by The New York Times today, the additional funds would be spent on extra ships for the Navy, tactical aircraft and a new bomber for the Air Force, and recruit more Army staff and pay increases for existing members of the armed forces.

These proposals are closely in line with the military priorities outlined by President Reagan and his staff during the recent election campaign. The bulk of this year's extra defence spending, totalling about \$7,000m would go towards improving military readiness and pay scales. It would bring the present defence budget to a total of \$178,000m.

The plans for new ships and aircraft would await the next financial year which begins on October 1. That year's budget would rise to about \$220,000m, according to The New York Times.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the new Defence Secretary, has announced that he will retain General David Jones as the Air Force as chairman of the joint chiefs of staff against the wishes of Mr Reagan's most

conservative supporters. The latter accused General Jones of aligning himself too closely with controversial decisions like the Panama Canal treaties and the cancellation of the B1 bomber during the Administration of President Carter.

Nevertheless, a Defence Department spokesman has announced that General Jones has been asked and has agreed to serve the remaining 18 months or so of his term of office. The general is reported to be delighted with his new boss's decision.

By contrast, Congress will not be entirely pleased by the Pentagon's plans for a huge increase in military spending when all other areas of federal spending, including welfare programmes, are destined for large-scale reductions totalling about \$50,000m over the next couple of years.

The Defence Department is expected to try to take some of the sting out of the proposed increases by trimming existing programmes which are lower on the list of the new Administration's military priorities. Mr Weinberger, who earned the title of "Cap the Knife" during one of his previous incarnations in Washington, is expected to be particularly adept at this exercise.

During his first press conference last week, the new Defence Secretary promised that his budget would be ready for submission to the White House by February 25 at the latest.

Pakistan urging 'troops out' clause in Delhi declaration

From Trevor Fishlock
Delhi, Feb 10

Attempts to persuade the non-aligned movement to harden its attitude to the Russian occupation of Afghanistan appeared tonight to have had some success.

Anodyne reference to Afghanistan in the draft declaration being haggled over by the non-aligned foreign ministers in conference here has been challenged in an amendment urged by Pakistan.

After hours of argument in the drafting committee's private session it seems that Pakistan's wording that "the foreign troops" to be withdrawn from Afghanistan has been accepted.

The original draft, drawn up by India, talks of "the inadmissibility of the use of force in international relations" and expresses support for the "sovereignty and non-aligned status of Afghanistan".

Pakistan, supported by several other countries, believes the movement will lose respect and credibility if it cannot put some bone into its declaration on Afghanistan.

If the "troops out" call

appears in the final draft it will be a blow to the Russians and to the Soviet countries in the movement which have been trying hard to keep such phrases out.

Pakistan's success in pushing the question of Russian withdrawal is bound to lead to more heated and bitter argument.

Mr S. Dhanabalan, Foreign Minister of Singapore, said today that if the conference does not come out openly against the presence of Russian troops in Afghanistan he would question the purpose and worth of the non-aligned movement.

The conference's position on Afghanistan and Kampuchea, he said, would give a clear indication of the future direction of the movement.

Dr Kurt Waldheim, United Nations Secretary-General, arrived here tonight for the movement's twentieth anniversary ceremony to be held tomorrow. He plans to have separate talks with the foreign ministers of Pakistan, Iran and Afghanistan in the hope of initiating a discussion on the Afghan question.

General who opposed force to lead Poland

From Desza Trecian
Warsaw, Feb 10

Although he has spent all his life as a soldier, the slightly-built General Wojciech Jaruzelski who was yesterday proposed by the central committee of the Polish Communist Party to take the premiership does not look like a soldier. Rather he has the stamp of a Polish nobleman, which is his family background.

In the Second World War he went to the Soviet Union, where he joined the newly-formed Polish Army three years later. Trained in the Soviet officers' school in Ryazan, he fought with the Dabrowski Polish Division, and joined the Polish Communist Party in 1947.

His whole career was spent in the armed forces, where in 1960, he was promoted to head the political department and later was assigned the job of chief of the Polish General Staff.

He has been Defence Minister since 1968 when the then Prime Minister, Mr Cyrankiewicz, took him into the government. At the same time, his political career in the party hierarchy continued to advance from membership of the central committee to the Politburo in 1971, thereby combining military activity with that of a politician in the highest party office.

He was the man often spoken of as likely to take up the post, either as head of state or at one time even as head of the party.

Though he seldom takes any public political position he is said to have been firmly opposed to using force in the Baltic riots last year ago. As recently as last August it was largely due to him and to Mr Stanislaw Kania, the present party secretary, then in charge of army and security police in the Politburo, that force was not used against the strikers.

General Jaruzelski has the reputation of a moderate, but he is also representing the



General Wojciech Jaruzelski: Politbureau to Prime Minister

Army, which, since his term as Defence Minister has become a modern, well-trained cohesive force, regaining the traditional popularity among the Poles, who are proud of their Army.

Nevertheless, the Army's daily newspaper, *Zolnierz Wolnosci*, which represents the view of the Ministry of Defence, has throughout the recent crisis taken a harder attitude to the activities of the alleged anti-socialist forces, and expressed alarm over the deterioration in the social and political situation.

Clashes feared at Iran revolution festivities

From Tony Allaway
Tehran, Feb 10

The colourful celebratory flags that have been hoisted in various parts of Tehran in the past few days belie the general apprehension over tomorrow's celebrations of the second anniversary of the revolution.

The press, come with special colour supplements, did their best today to paint the positive side of the anniversary, which marked the "victory of blood over the sword" in the words of one.

On the face of it, all those in politics after two turbulent years have cause for celebration that the revolution has survived enormous difficulties. But it is the nature of that survival and the deep political divisions it has created that give rise to fears about the outcome of tomorrow's festivities.

The newspaper *Islamic Republic*, representing the dominant religious fundamentalists today gave warning of a "widespread conspiracy" to create clashes tomorrow, led by the "American group" Peykar, which was involved in clashes in Tehran last Friday which left one dead and many injured.

The group, which is in fact extreme left, has issued a statement calling supporters to its own anniversary celebration outside Tehran university. The Government, the statement claimed, was not competent to hold the celebration because it had "deviated" the revolution.

If the meeting takes place political observers fear a repeat of last Friday's violence. Ayatollah Mahdavi Kani, the Interior Minister, said last night that security officials would act "decisively" against "those who intend to plot and create disturbances".

The timing of the demonstration clashes with one of the main events of the day, a speech by President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr at the large Azadi Square in the west of the city. It is not clear whether the President will use the occasion, as with his last big speech in

Tehran on November 30, to launch a further attack on his fundamentalist political opponents. The President's aides have indicated he will.

The President has been approached by clergyman from a special council set up to resolve differences between the warring factions in the past structure and yesterday talked with Ayatollah Khomeini. Afterwards the President spoke more of the unity of the nation than its disunity—a possible sign that the ayatollah had told him not to rock the boat.

Such a warning was given by *Islamic Republic* today which declared that any attempts to sow discord tomorrow would be regarded as "counter-revolutionary".

The difficulty for the President is that so many people are expecting him to add to his strong words of November. Political observers believe that should he choose to stay silent tomorrow it might dishearten a large section of his popular base.

Attempts may also be made, as in the past, to disrupt the President's speech before he has a chance to say anything. To add to the nervousness, the leftist, *Islamic mujahidin*, Khali guerrilla organization, which is closely associated with the President but is much reviled by the fundamentalists in the real seat of power, has called its members out in force to listen to the speech.

In an attempt to counter the publicity for the President's speech, his opponents have arranged a controversial ceremony in the afternoon in which the "nest of spies"—the former United States Embassy in central Tehran—will be officially transferred for the use of the wounded of the revolution and the war with Iraq.

The move is in contravention of government indications that the compound would be handed to the Swiss Embassy in accordance with international law. It also ignores a statement by Ayatollah Beheshti, head of the Supreme Court, that the question of the compound would be dealt with by Parliament.

Suspension of US aid leads to political crisis

Only two options for Nicaragua

From Stephen Downer
Managua, Feb 10

Washington's suspension of economic aid to Nicaragua has contributed to a political crisis in the country which many Nicaraguans expect will peak within six months.

By then, it is widely felt, the Sandinista National Liberation Front, the country's main political force, will have to have made up its mind whether to become more moderate or more radical. "These are the only two options," said Señor William Baez, a leading private business spokesman. "The country cannot continue in this way."

"There are probably going to be some internal political problems as the Sandinistas decide what to do," another private sector spokesman said. "They may decide to become more moderate or to blame their problems on the United States and become more radical. Whatever happens, there will probably be a purge of important people in the Government."

The Reagan Administration has suspended economic aid, while it investigates the use to which the money is being put. One of the conditions attached to President Carter's aid package was that Nicaragua should not interfere in other countries' affairs. In recent weeks, State Department officials have accused Nicaragua of intervening in El Salvador on the side of left-wing guerrillas fighting to overthrow the American-backed government.

Dr Arturo Cruz, a moderate member of the five-man junta governing Nicaragua, last week denied Nicaraguan intervention in El Salvador. He said suspension of aid, could force the revolution to become more radical. There was no intention of turning Nicaragua into a totalitarian state. "It's inaccurate to say this is a Marxist-Leninist revolution and I personally feel it would be unjustified for Reagan to asphyxiate us financially," said Cruz, despite being a critic of the Nicaraguan Government's "inefficiency", backs Dr Cruz. "There are many people in this country, including myself, who think foreign aid to Nicaragua should continue."

He described Dr Cruz, who worked for 10 years with the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, as the most crucial man in the country. "He is very well trusted by the private sector. He has very good international connections. He is an honest man and has no political ambitions."

He is the right man at the right time in the right place. In this crisis he will play a very vital role."

Managua is being administered by the junta but real political power is in the hands of the nine-man National Sandinista Directorate. The Sandinistas run key ministries such as Agrarian Reform, Planning, Defence and the Interior.

The private sector and the Government have been at loggerheads over how the economy should be run for the

past year. Dialogue between them was suspended last autumn, when the private sector's six representatives on the 47-member Council of State resigned, and has not been reopened.

The move was in protest over the Sandinista-dominated council's alleged failure to permit political pluralism and what the private sector considered true press freedom, among other points.

The mass withdrawal complained the Sandinistas' problems. They were already under pressure from the Roman Catholic Church to release Father Miguel d'Escoto, the Foreign Minister, and other priests from their official Government posts. The Church says the men cannot be priests and politicians.

Labour unrest has helped cut industrial production by half and there are constant fears of a counter-revolution, which to the Sandinistas and Nicaraguan Government appears to be a very real possibility today.

Another headache has come from the agricultural sector. Nicaragua will lose between 15 and 20 per cent of its cotton and coffee crops in 1981 according to official and private sector estimates, due to a greatly reduced picking force.

Violence and political problems in Honduras and El Salvador have kept thousands of pickers from those two countries at home. The government has appealed to the population to help and last week the five junta members spent a day in the fields setting an example.

Hopes rise for Guatemala deal on Belize

By David Spanier

Hopes are rising that the long standing wrangle between Britain and Guatemala over the future of Belize, formerly British Honduras, may be settled this week.

After talks in New York last week, described as making some encouraging progress, Mr George Price, the Premier of Belize, is conferring with his colleagues, and on the other side, the Guatemalan Government is understood to be considering its own position in the light of the talks.

British and Guatemalan officials are to meet in New York again tomorrow. Although it is too soon to know if a deal will stick, the decision to meet is seen as hopeful.

Pilots escape punishment after illegal work-to-rule

From Our Own Correspondent
Singapore, Feb 10

A Singapore court today discharged without punishment 15 air crew of the state airline, Singapore Airlines, but fined their union, the Singapore Airlines Pilots Association, for taking illegal industrial action.

The union was fined 1,000 Singapore dollars (about £200) the pilots were set free because they have proved their good intent since the illegal work-to-rule last autumn. Their action ended with an ultimatum from Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Prime Minister, that he would shut down the airline unless normal working resumed. All the pilots had pleaded guilty when first brought before the court last December.

There has been no disruption of flights since Mr Lee's threat

but the atmosphere among expatriate flight crews is still strained. Government negotiations on a new collective agreement with the union, which at one point was being threatened with deregistration, have been resumed with a deadline of between four and six weeks.

The judge said today he thought the pilots had been adequately punished because of all the adverse publicity their case had aroused.

A similar case against a flight deck crew who were dismissed during the dispute is due to be heard in April. Captain Douglas Campbell, a Scot, his first officer, Mr John Maguire, and their two Singaporean colleagues were recalled from a Singapore-London flight and dismissed after they stood down at Zurich claiming overwork.

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OVERSEAS

Britain and the Third World: Far East investment projects set up

Pioneer spirit breaks ground in Indonesia

This is the second of four articles examining the work of the Commonwealth Development Corporation.

From David Watts, Singapore, Feb 10

Two projects of the Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC) in South-East Asia epitomize the kinds of investment which light the eyes of CDC executives.

The latest, and the one of which they are most proud, is a pioneering venture which will bring jobs and development to an outback area of Irian Jaya, Indonesia, and the other is a longstanding investment, called BAL Estates in Sabah, east Malaysia.

The two ventures illustrate well the CDC's most favoured activities—the first, breaking ground with a pioneer, and the second, a glitzy, money-maker now well established.

A year ago on February 10, 1980, a small barge was run ashore near the hamlet of Ransiki in Irian Jaya and logs dumped to form a temporary ramp for a bulldozer for ground clearance. This started one of CDC's more ambitious schemes which would ultimately yield handsome profits and provide organized development of agriculture in an area which provides only subsistence living for Indonesians.

To reach the Ransiki project requires a long, island-hopping flight from Jakarta to Manokwari from where it is still a sea

journey of more than 40 miles to the site.

The past year has been spent on site-clearing and preparing what will ultimately be a plantation of 755 hectares of cocoa and 260 of coffee involving a total investment of about £7m. Sixty per cent of the equity is being provided by CDC.

Only recently have the pioneering staff moved out of the tents they have been living in to permanent wooden houses on stilts in the local style. But the project has not been without hitches even though it is still at a fundamental stage of development.

The Ransiki river, which flows from hills a few miles inland from the project site, spreads into a fertile alluvial fan which is excellent for agriculture. But not long after the project appraisal stage had been completed the Ransiki river burst its banks and changed course during exceptionally heavy rains in March, 1978.

There was concern about the project's future until experts identified a fresh tract of land to the north which compensated for the land cut off to the south by the river's change of course.

A different type of soil in the new tract has resulted in the project changing from a planned plantation of cocoa and coconut to the substitution of more valuable coffee in place of the coconuts.

The first 80 hectares of cocoa are planned for planting during the present year and the first 10 hectares of coffee during 1984. Both commodities should be fully planted two years later.

A factory to process the cocoa is to be built in two phases in 1983 and 1986, by which time the Ransiki project should be producing a good return on CDC's original investment given the price of the commodity.

The value of the Ransiki project both to the Indonesian Government, which has designated Irian Jaya a resettlement area for Indonesians from Java, and to the local community can be judged from the fact that despite its large land area Irian Jaya has a small population and only 0.5 per cent of its land area is under cultivation. Agricultural exports total 2,000 tonnes a year, mainly nutmeg and copra.

"We like to go into new ground-breaking schemes, but we have to have money-makers too," said Mr Christopher Stephenson, regional controller of CDC for Asia, whose base is in Singapore.

Just such a money-maker is the BAL Estate in Sabah which now has 1,900 hectares of cocoa, 5,100 hectares of oil palms and 3,000 hectares of rubber. With a work-force of 3,180 the estate comprises a community of 7,000 people, including dependants.

The 1979 pretax profit for the estate, at £5.6m was lower than the two previous years but

still about 10 per cent up on the previous five years. The estate is strong foreign-currency earners for Malaysia and now have Malaysian nationals in all but the most senior executive posts.

CDC has been involved with the estate since they were bought by Nornco Abaca Ltd in 1949. They were in Japanese hands before that.

"We sincerely hope that we are not going to be cut back because one objective is to do the maximum development we can with our resources. But, at the same time we are obliged to pay our way from year to year," Mr Stephenson said.

"We have to maintain our portfolio in real terms, so we need to make commitments of £90m every year. A considerable amount comes from self-generated funds but the balance must come from government."

Mr Stephenson sees significant opportunities for expansion of business in agriculture with the possibility of assisting in a smallholder scheme. In the Philippines and the deployment of CDC management skills in a Sri Lankan sugar project.

With the World Bank, the CDC has been instrumental in the reseedling of rubber plantations in southern Thailand. "There will soon be an opportunity to contribute to the second phase of that project as well as new projects in Indonesia and Malaysia as long as the funds are available."

Next: Swadland

Atom plant built by Chinese

From David Bonavia, Peking, Feb 10

China's disclosure that it has developed a high-flux atomic reactor for research purposes caused a stir in knowledgeable circles in Peking today, but it is seen as a logical step towards introducing nuclear power and conserving other energy resources.

The reactor is reported to have a thermal power of 125,000 kilowatts, not in itself capable of making a great contribution to the country's needs of some 60,000 megawatts.

The development of a domestically built reactor—which has taken more than 20 years of research and is mainly based on technology originally applied to China by the Soviet Union in the 1950s—is a matter of prestige as much as a serious contribution to energy requirements.

Purposes for which the reactor can be used include testing of the effects of neutrons on materials and engineering projects, and production of radioactive isotopes.

The official news agency said that precautions had been taken to "protect the operators, local inhabitants and the environment." The reactor is said to be located "in south-west China", and is "probably close to the city of Chengdu, capital of Sichuan province."

China has launched a campaign to economize on the use of electricity produced from oil, coal and hydro-electric plants. Production of coal and oil is not being increased much over the next year or two to encourage economy measures.

Chairman Hua absent from Mitterrand talks

From Our Correspondent, Peking, Feb 10

M. François Mitterrand, the leader of the French Socialist Party, who is on a visit in Peking, is meeting several top Chinese leaders, but no engagement with his Chinese counterpart, Mr Guofeng, has been announced.

As M. Mitterrand is here at the invitation of the Chinese Communist Party rather than the Government, this is seen as further confirmation that Mr Hua will soon resign.

Mr Hua caused a stir on the eve of the Chinese New Year last week by appearing on television in an official capacity. This is now thought to have been no more than a face-saving measure pending the convening of a plenum of the Central Committee at which he is expected to step down.

Among the leaders receiving M. Mitterrand are Mr Hu Yaobang, the Secretary-General of the Chinese Party, Mr Li Xiangnan, a Vice-Chairman, Mr Deng Xiaoping, the senior Vice-Chairman, and Mr Fang Yi. Last week M. Mitterrand told journalists that he and the Chinese leaders did not see entirely eye to eye on foreign policy. "I do not think that our foreign policy has to choose between China and Russia," he said.

Peking welcomes Sihanouk candidature in Kampuchea

From Our Own Correspondent, Singapore, Feb 10

China has welcomed Prince Norodom Sihanouk's agreement to lead a united Kampuchean resistance movement but made no mention of the conditions laid down by him.

The Prince announced his somewhat reluctant candidature for the leadership of the disparate groups in the resistance movement from his self-imposed exile in Pyongyang on Sunday.

A brief statement from the Foreign Ministry in Peking today, however, did not mention whether or not China was now willing to go full backing, such a unified resistance movement.



Government workers in the Philippines sort out welcome flags for the Pope's visit

Britain's Commissioner in Canada to retire early

By David Spanier, Diplomatic Correspondent

Sir John Ford, British High Commissioner in Canada, whose recent comments on the Canadian constitution had attracted some controversy, is leaving his post. He will be succeeded by Lord Moran, the British Ambassador in Lisbon.

But the Foreign Office said yesterday that Sir John's departure—expected to be around May—had been planned for some months, and had no connection with his interventions on the constitutional issue. He will, in fact, be giving up his post about nine months before the normal retiring age of 60, but such a move was described as quite normal in the Diplomatic Service.

At the same time, though apparently by only a chance coincidence, the Canadian High Commissioner was in contact with British Government officials the day before the announcement of Sir John's departure, to review the handling of the constitutional question overall.

It can be assumed that the role of the British High Commissioner in Ottawa was discussed in this context, with some implied criticism of Sir John's record.

He is being replaced by Sir John's record. Six provincial Premiers who are opposing the

constitutional plan of Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, have pledged to "continue the struggle on all fronts." In the words of Mr Manning, the Premier of Manitoba, (John Best writes from Ottawa).

At an all-day meeting in a Montreal hotel room on Monday, they agreed to intensify their efforts, both in Canada and Britain.

Afterwards they told reporters they plan to go as a delegation to London to carry on the struggle after the constitutional package has cleared Canada's Parliament and is sent to Westminster for approval.

Mr Brian Peckford, the Premier of Newfoundland, predicted that the delegation would leave for London about one week after the reform plan was referred to the British Parliament.

Eight of Canada's ten provinces opposed the plan, but yesterday's meeting involved the premiers of only the six which have launched court actions against it. In addition to Mr Peckford and Mr Lyon they are: Mr René Lévesque of Quebec, Mr Peter Lougheed of Alberta, Mr William Bennett of British Columbia, and Mr Angus Maclean of Prince Edward Island.

Leading article, page 15

Zimbabwe death toll rises

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, Feb 10

At least one person was killed today in the second outbreak of factional violence in Zimbabwe since the weekend. As clashes continued tonight there were indications that the toll would rise.

The violence today flared at the Commemora Barracks between Que and Gwelo on the main Salisbury-Bulawayo road. Roadblocks sealed off the stretch of road between the two towns tonight and strict security measures were being enforced, limiting the flow of information from the area.

The clashes involved soldiers supporting Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, and those following Mr Joshua Nkomo, his partner in the coalition Government. It is believed that elements of one group last night seized weapons from the barracks armoury, and opened fire on their comrades.

Violence spread to the roads this morning when motorists travelling between Que and Gwelo came under fire and three people were wounded. Roadblocks were set up although army convoys were apparently taking essential traffic through the trouble spot.

Police stayed out of the area but an army group was deployed in an attempt to quell the violence. In an exchange of fire with a unit of the disbanded soldiers was reported to have been killed.

Tonight the area was still cordoned off while the sound of gunfire continued.

The incidents are likely to have been sparked by factional fighting over the weekend at the barracks at Ntshindundu about 95 miles further along the road to Bulawayo in which one person was killed.

The seriousness of the situation was emphasized by the scheduling of an address by Mr Mugabe, who is also Minister of Defence, to the House of Assembly tomorrow.

Mr Emmerson Munengagwa, the minister of state with responsibility for security, was expected to have been questioned by white Rhodesian Front MPs in Parliament tonight on the security situation but the questions were deferred pending Mr Mugabe's speech.

Many believed killed in Soviet air crash

Moscow, Feb 18—A Soviet Defence Ministry announcement today about the air crash on Saturday, in which Admiral Emil Spiridonov, the commander of the Soviet Pacific fleet was killed, suggested there was a heavy loss of life.

The brief announcement carried in the Defence Ministry newspaper Red Star said the victims were "admirals, generals, officers, sailors and employees of the Pacific fleet."

It extended sympathy to the relatives and friends of those killed during what appears to have been a military exercise. —Reuters.

San Salvador university board are kidnapped

San Salvador, Feb 10—Armed men broke into a meeting and kidnapped the advisory board to the national university here today, a university communiqué said. Its roster and the general secretary and members of the university union were among those seized.

The number of people kidnapped by about 20 armed men with pistols and sub-machine guns was not known.

The university was closed last June by the Government on the grounds that it was a breeding ground for guerrilla activity. It has remained closed and has been occupied by troops since.—AP.

Gunmen kill 18: At least 18 people were killed today when a bus was attacked by machine gunfire, mortars and grenades near the town of Suchitoto, north-west of here, police said.

The attacks on the bus, an electricity plant and other centres appeared to be the work of left-wing guerrillas trying to overthrow the ruling junta which is supported by the United States.—Reuters.

Photographer dies: A French photographer, Mr Olivier Rebbo, was shot and killed while covering the war in El Salvador last month in El Salvador last night, hospital officials said.—AP.

Social Focus

Why so many families are facing the big switch off

A private member's Bill which has its first chance of a second reading on Friday would end gas and electricity boards' right to disconnect domestic consumers without a court order.

The bill, introduced by Mr John Cartwright (Labour MP for Greenwich, Woolwich, East) who is drawn fifteenth in the private members' ballots, stands little chance of reaching the statute book.

Yet it spotlights an issue which is causing increasing concern to consumer representatives, welfare agencies, and advice bureaux.

The number of disconnections is growing rapidly. For several years electricity disconnections have been almost stable at about 90,000 a year. In 1980 there were 122,000. The gas figures, though lagging behind, are now on a similar upward trend.

The gas and electricity boards' right to disconnect, which they share with other statutory undertakers such as the water authorities and the telephone service, is unlike any other system of debt collection. It deprives families of essential services without any recourse to law.

To evict a tenant for non-payment of rent a landlord has to go to court. So must a hire-purchase company reclaiming goods, or anyone else seeking repayment of a debt from people who are unwilling or unable to pay. It is a criminal offence to harass a debtor or his family by threatening violence, publicity, or anything

likely to cause alarm, distress, or humiliation.

Yet gas and electricity boards can leave people without heat and light at officials' discretion.

Since 1976, a code of practice has offered some protection to "hardship" cases; those receiving supplementary benefit, unemployment benefit or family income supplement, those with young children, and old age pensioners. But slips occur.

Last month in Andover, Hampshire, men from Southern Gas cut the lock from a family's front door while the mother was taking her baby to the clinic, cut off the gas, and left the door unsecured on the way out. The family had forgotten to pay a bill which arrived just before Christmas, and had received no reminder.

Last week officials of the London Electricity Board arrived to cut off the supply of a mother whose bills were already being paid by the Department of Health and Social Security. There had been a "communications gap."

In another case the LEB threatened to cut off for a second time a family of seven, with the father receiving unemployment benefit and the mother chronically sick, after they had made, and kept to, an agreement to pay £5 a week off their arrears.

The board thought they had been promised £10 a week, though they now accept the family could never have afforded so much.

Dame Elizabeth Ackroyd, the most ex-

perienced of the chairmen of the electricity consultative councils representing consumers in the regions, supports the Cartwright Bill. So does her council, the South-Eastern. "We believe that you should have an outside, judicial eye looking at the merits of the cases. People should have the chance of arguing about their fuel bills, which at present they are denied."

The use the boards make of their right to be judge and jury on disconnections varies. South-Western Electricity report every case to district sub-committees of consumer representatives before taking action. In the quarter to the end of September 1980 they cut off only 671 homes. The London Electricity Board in the same period made 10,764 disconnections. Families in London are now being disconnected at the rate of 150 a day. The LEB have been accused of frequent breaches of the code of practice.

Mr Cartwright says that even if his Bill fails it may at least hasten the industry's promised review of the code of practice, which has now been awaited more than two years. It may also call in question the marketing material which still accompanies every fuel bill; the ways in which arrears are allowed to mount; and the lack of advice that is available on energy conservation and the economic use of fuel.

Robin Young

Consumer Affairs Correspondent

Race relations: so difficult to provide justice for all

The Conservative Party is showing a sharp distaste for some recent findings in race relations cases. The most controversial was a recent industrial tribunal case in which British Leyland admitted indirect racial discrimination because it insisted that people applying for labouring jobs filled in application forms in English.

During questions to the Prime Minister, Mr John Stokes, Conservative MP for Halesowen and Stourbridge, said: "Is not this absurd? Can the Commission that is still the language of England? Mrs Thatcher replied: 'I wholly agree with Mr Stokes'."

After a ruling by the High Court, the Commission for Racial Equality has now begun investigating the immigration service. The ruling brought a strong reaction from Mr Harvey Proctor, Conservative MP for Basildon, who urged Mr Whitelaw to repeal the law which established the Commission.

The implications of cases like this are to be explained by the Commission in a new legal publication for the benefit of lawyers and others seeking to interpret the significant case-law building up under the Race Relations Act. Many more people may be offending than is generally realized. Practices used for years may be discriminatory.

The point at issue in the British Leyland language case was that BL were allegedly testing abilities not required for a particular job, in this case labouring. The test affected one racial group disproportionately, because the qualification demanded was the ability to read and write English.

Mr Peter Sanders, director of the Equal Opportunities Division of the Commission, said that the ruling should not be taken to imply that the requirement to complete an application form was unlawful in all circumstances. It would be lawful for a job in which an ability to read and write English was needed. There might be many employers who inadvertently, perhaps, were breaking the law in the same way.

Mr Geoffrey Bindman, legal adviser to the Commission, added: "The legal position is that a test which adversely affects members of racial groups offends the Race Relations Act unless the employer can show that the test accurately reflects the needs of the job."

The Commission wants to interpret the results of cases and formal investigations in a way that would be of use to those seeking redress and to firms or organizations anxious to know where they stand.

One ruling with wide implications was by the Court of Appeal on January 20 that services to the public provided by the Inland Revenue not only in the collecting of taxes, but in granting relief from taxes, making monetary repayments and giving advice on such matters were covered by the Race Relations Act.

Mr Prabhudas Seivani, of Leicester, was asked to bring to a tax office a full birth certificate, instead of a short one, to obtain relief in respect of his child. Lord Denning said the father was upset because he knew then if he had been an ordinary Englishman the short form of certificate would do.

It was plainly a case of discrimination. The father had been treated less favourably than other fathers.

In a letter to the Race Relations Board in 1977, the chairman of the Inland Revenue had quoted a report by the Public Accounts Committee to Parliament in 1968. It "found that fraudulent claims to personal reliefs had been made upon an extensive scale by immigrants from the Indian sub-continent." Following that report, the Inland Revenue "were obliged to introduce more stringent tests upon claimants by immigrants. Those included: 'the inspection of the full birth certificate which enables the child allowance entitlement of the claimant to be verified'."

The Act has given far more muscle to tackle discrimination than was available previously. Some 45 formal investigations have now been started by the Commission and 10 of them have been completed.

In a formal investigation of the recruiting methods of a baker's and confectioners', the Commission decided that recruitment by personal recommendation (by word of mouth) in two of its departments was discriminatory. The

Commission says it is convinced that recruitment by word of mouth is one of the most serious obstacles to equality of opportunity.

One of the objects of the CRE's new journal, which is expected to be published three times a year, will be to encourage the development of an effective civil right movement capable of helping people fight their own cases of alleged discrimination.

At present, little such capability exists. Part of the reason may be that at least some organizations which feel alienated are more likely to seek redress of grievances through protest and politics than through the county court or industrial tribunals. And ordinary people may sometimes find the procedures intimidating.

It could be argued that the presence of statutory agencies like the old Race Relations Board and the present Commission for Racial Equality inhibit the growth of an effective civil rights movement by doing part of its job for it. One of its accusations hurled at the statutory agencies by militants was that they were brought into being as safety valves to reduce the force of the politics of black activists were preaching.

Whatever the reason, one of the objects of the Race Relations Act as originally conceived is not now being achieved. The idea before it was drafted was that the new Commission should be freed of individual cases so as to be able to concentrate on strategic formal investigations. But it has not worked out that way. Just a few prescient people on the Race Relations Board and the Community Relations Commission foresaw that individuals at inhibited from taking cases to court or industrial tribunals seem to be confirmed by the figures.

The Commission's advice and help being sought instead. Out of about 4 successful cases over a two year period tribunals the Commission gave assistance in about 36; in most cases that involve representation.

Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

Laws too dangerous to toy with

Toys are never safe. The European toy manufacturers (ETM) themselves say so. It is, rather strangely, their very first objection to the European Commission's draft directive on toy safety. In fact, the directive looks likely to join the long list of good causes lost in the European log jam.

"Only toys that are safe should be on the market," that must come out, ETM argue, because "it is impossible to ensure absolute safety in this area."

Just how dangerous toys are, and how many accidents they cause, is difficult to assess. The European Commission relies mainly on a 1975 report by the Organization of European Co-operation and Development using American and British statistics for its claim that the need to protect children is amply demonstrated.

The British Toy and Hobby Manufacturers Association (BTHA) quotes more British statistics (1978) as "casting serious doubt on the need for a comprehensive directive," and the American experience, according to them, "suggests strongly that toys are among the safest products on the market."

It happens that the United States and Britain are among the few countries to provide any statistics relating to toy safety. In both countries the evidence has prompted the introduction of stricter safety regulations, which have already improved matters. Other countries have widely different, and sometimes minimal regulations, and collect no statistics to show what injuries toys cause.

One proposal in the directive is that EEC member states should give the Commission figures relating to accidents involving toys. The British manufacturers, pleading that another EEC draft directive (also firmly stuck in the system) aims at the general collection of accident statistics, "fail to see the need for this article."

In Britain, the Home Accident Surveillance System figures for 1979 showed 530 accidents involving toys, compared with only 12 for fireworks, 18 for skateboards and 26 for guns. Analysis in 1978 suggested that in most cases it was not defects in the toys which were to blame, but there are still exceptions.

The Department of Trade is concerned about cheap, jack-in-the-boxes being sold by market traders. The braking mechanism inside is a simple rubber band. When it snaps the toy flies open violently, with ample force to put a child's eye out. So far the manufacturers have not been traced.

The Government has recently had to deal with cases involving dolls whose heads and limbs came off to expose sharp metal spikes; rear-gas capsules whose contents could blind if splashed in the eyes; and a baby's handbell which might have suffocated an infant who pulled it apart. The handbell in fact complied with the British Toys (Safety) Regulations 1974 (though not with the European Toy Safety Standard which has been adopted as a British Standard).

The Commission's claim that it is impossible to define technical standards which will eliminate all possible risks from toys.

Toys have become big business. Well over 60,000 types are marketed. Only foods are available in greater diversity. The world's playthings are so various that they can present every imaginable hazard. Licking and chewing may poison. Detachable parts may be swallowed. Wooden or plastic toys may splinter. Sharp edges may cut. Moving parts may trap fingers and some toys too easily catch fire. At the extreme toys can be electrically dangerous, chemically corrosive, carcinogenic, polluted with health hazards, or even radioactive.

Manufacturers have been concerned about the barriers to trade caused by the differing safety rules different countries have chosen. Within the Community, Holland and France have widely different, and sometimes contradictory, rules. Italian toys are not acceptable in Germany.

Meanwhile, Community experts are blocked by ever more complex regulations applied in the United States and Japan, while manufacturers there flock expecting to Europe less difficult. More and more toys are also imported from new producers in the Far East.

The original call for the toy safety directive came from both toy manufacturers who saw harmonization as essential to free trade in toys, and from consumer groups interested in the safety of children.

Now the consumer groups are appalled that the manufacturers appear to have turned against them. The draft directive is taking a battering in the committees of the European Parliament, which at present seems disinclined to support the Commission's proposals.

The Commission proposed that consumer associations should be able to get the authorities to test toys they thought were dangerous. ETM say: "this would create an unfortunate precedent."

Manufacturers have been assimilated within the organs of jurisdiction. Article 14 proposes that member states must "en-

sure that appropriate effective, rapid and inexpensive means of redress shall be available" to anyone injured using a toy. ETM say: "We do not see the usefulness of this article."

The consumer groups are even more deeply hurt by the attitude of the British manufacturers, the BTHA. The BTHA starts from the uncompromising position "The directive has assumed a 'toy' safety problem which does not exist."

Like their German counterparts, BTHA want article 13, on false and misleading advertising of toys, "deleted." (The Commission has a separate draft on misleading advertising stuck elsewhere in its labyrinthine system.) The British Article 14, dealing with redress, should be struck out also as it replicates the European Commission on product liability (another draft trapped in the EEC's by of despair).

On these and other points, no doubt compromise should be possible, though the haggling might take years. The cost of contention still include such basics as the definition of toys, and how much abuse of toys by children manufacturers might be expected to foresee.

BTHA say they do still want a directive to free trade in toys, though they think it should only apply to toys so internationally, and should exclude most of the Commission's present proposal. They would rather have no directive at all than accept general safety requirements which are not backed by common technical standards.

Annex III of the draft lists the general safety requirements, such as the toys "may not constitute a danger, inflammable element in the child's environment" or "must not be explosive or contain electronic or parts likely to explode."

The Commission plead that if they try to set technical standards for every toy, they would, first, fail, and second, stultify all technical innovation. So the most state general requirements.

BTHA say the directive must set technical standards, no matter how high, will make the general safety requirements mean whatever they want them to, that the directive raises more barriers to the free movement of toys than it removes.

It is more aggravating and frustrating than anything a toy puzzle-maker could devise. What it proves, unfortunately, is that legislating to ensure European children's safety is anything but child play.

R. V.

PARLIAMENT, February 10, 1981

Lord Chancellor rejects move to allow journalists to refuse to name their sources in court

House of Lords

The provision in the Contempt of Court Bill which would allow a judge to order a journalist to disclose the source of information contained in a publication for which he was responsible, was rejected by the House of Lords on Tuesday.

The bill, which would limit the discussion of public affairs and achieve the kind of publicity experienced in the case of *The Sunday Times*, Lord Elwyn-Jones, for the Opposition, said during the report stage of the bill.

He moved an amendment to Clause 1, which provided that a publication made as part of a discussion of public affairs should not be made in a good faith. The amendment would have required a journalist to disclose the source of information if it was in the public interest to do so.

Lord Elwyn-Jones said that the words "in good faith" were left out of the bill to create a subjective test which would be created in the discussion of public affairs. He said that the words "in good faith" were left out of the bill to create a subjective test which would be created in the discussion of public affairs.

The amendment was rejected by 115 votes to 61. Government majority 34.

Lord Morris (C) moved a new clause to provide that no court

might require a person to disclose, nor was a person guilty of contempt for refusing to disclose, the source of information contained in a publication for which he was responsible, unless it was established that the disclosure was necessary in the interests of justice, of national security, or for the prevention of disorder or crime.

The underlying issue could never have been put more eloquently than by Lord Denning in his dissenting judgment. He said that the courts were reaching towards the principle that the public had a right to access to information which was of public concern and which the public ought to know. Newspapers were the agents of the public to collect information and to try to tell the public of it.

The insertion of the phrase "in the interests of justice" in the proposed new clause since it was first suggested at committee stage put the journalist in the same position as a clerk and medical man. The amendment was not intended to grant privilege to journalists, still less to their informants, but to grant privilege to the public to the collection of information and to try to tell the public of it.

Lord Elwyn-Jones said that the amendment would have been enough to make a journalist who was in a position to disclose information, would he not also be enough to state the source of his information.

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The amendment was rejected by 115 votes to 61. Government majority 34.

Harman case issue misunderstood

Lord Gifford (Lab) moved a new clause (1) which would require a person to disclose, nor was a person guilty of contempt for refusing to disclose, the source of information contained in a publication for which he was responsible, unless it was established that the disclosure was necessary in the interests of justice, of national security, or for the prevention of disorder or crime.

Lord Gifford said that the clause was intended to protect the confidentiality of the contents of the documents of a person who was a member of the press or a member of the public, or his agent, terminated if and to the extent that the contents of the document were read aloud in open court in proceedings not subject to any limitation on the publication of the contents of the document.

He said that since the committee stage of the bill the House of Lords had decided in the case of *Harman v. The Home Office* that the issue was simple. Documents were disclosed by the Home Office to Mr. Williams, the prisoner who was suing. Miss Harman, as Mr. Williams's solicitor, had a duty to keep those documents confidential. Many of them were never read out in court, but some were.

Miss Harman did not show to any reporter any document which had not been read out in court. She did show to the reporter some documents read out.

The journalist took notes and used them to write an article which was widely reported in the press. The conduct was the conduct being held to be a serious contempt of court.

It was held that the public was to be allowed to become subject of contempt of court proceedings. Lord Gifford said that the public was to be allowed to become subject of contempt of court proceedings.

Lord Gifford said that the public was to be allowed to become subject of contempt of court proceedings.

Tolpuddle law to be repealed

The Unlawful Oaths Act of 1797, which Lord Halsbury of St. Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, said had been peacefully since the Tolpuddle Martyrs were deported under it, is being repealed.

Lord Halsbury of St. Marylebone, moving the second reading of the bill, said that the bill was intended to repeal the Unlawful Oaths Act of 1797, which was the Act which in 1834 the Tolpuddle Martyrs were sentenced to seven years' transportation because they had administered oaths of secrecy to members of an agricultural workers' trade union. They were subsequently granted a free pardon and brought back home at public expense. Ever since then the Act appeared to have been a relic of a bygone era.

He proposed a tripartite agreement with the establishment of a new partnership between Europe, the Middle East and Africa, and the third world at large. They must maintain a sense of justice, equality and opportunity for all.

Speaking in English to a crowded Parliament, President Sadat was loudly applauded several times during his speech and left the chamber to a standing ovation. He recalled that history had

taught them that there was no substitute for cooperation and coexistence. The bitter conflict that erupted over Jerusalem proved the futility of war and the fallacy of exclusive control over that city.

The new partnership he was proposing should be based on a firm belief in the oneness of their destiny and the similarity of their interests.

Afro-Asian countries should not be regarded as a source of raw materials or a market for manufactured goods. A healthy partnership should be based on a sense of justice, equality and opportunity for all.

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Civilized people should settle their differences not by killing each other, but by reasoning together in a spirit of mutual accommodation and understanding. The Egyptian people had hesitated to take the most formidable risks for the sake of peace. They did so from a position of strength not weakness. They were determined to realize their destiny and it was their destiny and mission.

The establishment of a Palestinian entity after a transitional period would be a positive development to all countries in the region. It posed no threat to the security of Israel, but would be the best guarantee for it.

A Palestinian entity (he said) faced with the task of reconstruction and building bridges with other nations will certainly bear the responsibility of preventing acts of violence and hostility.

We would like you to participate with us in pursuing peace between Israel and Palestine. We would like you to participate with us in pursuing peace between Israel and Palestine.

Mrs Thatcher refuses request to intervene in pit closures

House of Commons

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, rejected a request from Mr. Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, for a debate on the coal industry.

Mr. Foot (Edinburgh, Lab) asked if she had studied the serious matters arising on the agenda of discussions between the National Coal Board and the National Union of Mineworkers.

Does she not think it utterly deplorable (he went on) that this country should be contemplating closing pits, and pits that still have coal in them, at a time of world crisis in energy?

How does she square this with the undertakings which she and the Government have given at the Venice meetings a few months ago?

Mrs Thatcher (Barnet, Finchley, C) This is a matter for the NCB to consider in the light of all their responsibilities. It is not for me to say whether or not the Government will intervene in the matter.

We have already tried the external finance limit for the NCB for next year at the considerable sum of £82m.

Mr. Foot: Will she reconsider her answer? This is a matter for the Government to consider. (Labour cheer.)

Will she give an undertaking that no steps will be taken along

this road until the House has had a chance to discuss these matters and reconsider the tripartite system of discussion for the coal industry which produced the plan for coal which the Government said it was carrying forward?

It would be much better for our industry and country as a whole that an agreement should be reached between the coal board, miners and Government about a plan for the whole industry rather than the Government intervening in the disaster of quarrels between all three?

Mrs Thatcher: It would be wrong for the Government to attempt to intervene in the coal industry. It is for the Government, in conjunction with the NCB, to fix the necessary arrangements that are available.

The figure I gave him is the considerable figure that will have to be paid for the coal industry borrowing to go to the NCB for its operations next year. That is in addition to the price we have to pay for coal and the increased price for electricity because the price of coal is high.

Mr. Foot: As the future of the nation is concerned with this matter and that we will never recover from the recession if she and her friends let the coal board sink into this condition, can we have an

undertaking from her that the whole of these proposals will be discussed in the House before the procedure under which she is directing the industry proceeds?

Mrs Thatcher: No. I am not directing the industry. We have fixed the amount available for the industry. It is for the management of the NCB to maintain that arrangement and to stand by that arrangement.

Mr. Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) later unsuccessfully applied for an emergency debate on threatened pit closures.

Mr. Skinner said that he had just come from the National Coal Board. They could be witnessing another period of pit closures which there could be escape because pits once closed were unable to be reopened.

It was important to discuss the matter because the Prime Minister had today insisted that the closure programme had nothing to do with the Government.

For example, in research research chemicals it had captured about 80 per cent of the United Kingdom market, some 30 per cent of the United States market and nearly 30 per cent of Japanese sales. This had been achieved by a dynamic force in the face of tough international competition.

The proposal to sell shares in TRC was in accordance with the Government's policy of introducing private capital into public sector companies and, in view of the Government's record as a successful commercial operation, TRC was

Mr. Edward Rowlands, an Opposition spokesman on energy (Merthyr Tydfil, Lab) said that it was a pity and irrelevant Bill. The only justification for it was to give the Government power to sell of the whole of the radiochemicals. The minister had presented a rotten case to justify taking the power.

The Bill was all about the power to sell off a company which was commercially successful and more than one step ahead of its competitors. It had been a success story. The Government had made even more as a 100 per cent government-owned company.

Mr. Albert Booth, chief Opposition spokesman on transport (Barnes, Lab) said that 3,000 out of the 12,000 miles of railway network were at risk of being put into a state of disrepair. The Government had not enough investment in them. British Rail was faced with higher operating costs because they were using out-of-date stock.

The order was approved.

Euro-MP travel called 'gross extravagance'

If the amount reported to have been spent on overseas travel by Euro-MPs was correct, it was gross extravagance, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during questions.

She was answering Mr. Nicholas Budge (Wolverhampton, South-West, C) who had asked: When she goes to the European Council will she comment on the interesting letter by our distinguished colleague, Sir Fred Catherwood, in *The Times* today, asserting that the Euro-junkies, such as we have heard of recently, are necessary and should continue and that the EEC has a trade policy independent of the EEC's nation states?

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Mr. Arthur Davidson, an Opposition spokesman on defence (Aberdeen, Lab) welcomed the Bill. He said if young jobless people were to be trained in uniform and to work with military personnel, they would be treated before the law in the same way as other military people. How would they be treated?

Mr. Clive Soley (Hammersmith, Lab) said the Bill should have been a measure of the standards of civilization and the standards of the society. It was unlikely to be used anyway and would not deter Britain from being a member of the EEC.

Mr. Goodman said a genuine note of controversy was struck with reference to the possibility of some training in the armed forces for young unemployed.

Discussions were taking place to ascertain what further help the Services might give to unemployed young people, but so far no decision had yet been taken.

The Government was in line with the country's major aim in deciding to retain the death penalty for these offences. The Soviet military code contained no offences punishable by death in time of war.

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Commercial freedom preferred for high technology company

The Radiochemical Centre Ltd (TRC)

The Radiochemical Centre Ltd (TRC) was planned as an excellent candidate for privatization. The Government had avoided intervention in the day-to-day running of the company, and had never protected subsidies. Its only link with the public sector was the fact that its shares were held by theAEA and this was not an acquisition. The Government believed that this company would benefit from being fully integrated into the private sector.

The company's board had been consulted and agreed with the principle of disposing of shares in TRC.

The proceeds of disposal of shares in TRC would be paid into the Consolidated Fund. This was in accordance with one of the Government's other objectives from privatization—to reduce the size of the public sector borrowing requirement.

While the Government wished to maintain the option of selling shares in TRC, it was not at present planning to do so. It was not at present planning to do so.

The Bill would enable a sale of up to 100 per cent of the shares in TRC which were currently wholly-owned by the Atomic Energy Authority.

TRC had developed into a commercial and manufacturing organization with a worldwide business, employing some 2,000 people, its main markets being in medicine, research and industry. It was a world leader, with about 80 per cent of its sales revenue coming from abroad.

For example, in research research chemicals it had captured about 80 per cent of the United Kingdom market, some 30 per cent of the United States market and nearly 30 per cent of Japanese sales. This had been achieved by a dynamic force in the face of tough international competition.

The proposal to sell shares in TRC was in accordance with the Government's policy of introducing private capital into public sector companies and, in view of the Government's record as a successful commercial operation, TRC was

Mr. David Trippier (Rushmore, C) said the employees of TRC would benefit from the freedom of private enterprise and the benefits would extend to consumers, as radioactive isotopes were used in medicine and research.

Mr. David Pennington (Truro, Lab) said if the company was to be sold off the shares should be diversified among a large number of people, so that no part of the company would be controlled by a small group of shareholders.

He objected to selling it purely as a simple tactic. It was to do with atomic energy. Government monopoly on the exploitation and possibilities of atomic energy would be maintained.

Mr. Trevor Skeet (Bedford, C) said British Nuclear Fuels Ltd and the National Nuclear Corporation should also be disposed of at the same time. He called for monitoring and intervention by Government should be taken away from these companies.

Mr. Patrick McNair-Wilson (New Forest, C) said Mr. Rowlands had said that the Government was not only to acquire shares but also to dispose of them. He would have thought that a sensible thing to do.

He hoped the Bill also marked a turning-point, albeit a small one, in the fortunes of the nuclear power industry in this country. He hoped the Government would have a new impetus given to the industry.

Mr. Arthur Palmer (Bristol, North-East, Lab) said the reason for the existence of this little wreck of a Bill was that a new impetus was given to the industry.

Mr. Rowlands said the overwhelming majority of staff and workers would be retained. He called for monitoring and intervention by Government should be taken away from these companies.

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Government consider grant-loan system

The Government was considering the possibility of a grant-loan system for students rather than a straight loan system, Mr. Boyson, Under Secretary for Education and Science, stated.

He indicated his disagreement with a suggestion that a grant-loan system would not penalize people on low incomes.

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Rail passenger grant limit up to £3,000m

Mr. Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Transport, (Sutton Coldfield, C) moved that the draft Transport Bill, which would provide for a grant limit of up to £3,000m for the British Railways Board for their rail passenger system. At present the limit on the total annual payments which might be made from the end of 1978 was £1,750m. This order would increase that to £3,000m.

The Government expected that payments would approach the limit only towards the end of this year. It would be publishing tomorrow (Wednesday) the final report of the joint British Railways and Department of Transport review on identification.

Mr. Fowler said that there was to be an increase in productivity. The board indicated in their corporate plan of last November that they would run the rail network with about 35,000 test posts, and that would not mean a smaller railway.

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Killer disease research

Mr. Allen Adams (Paisley, Lab) was given leave to bring in a Bill to put a statutory obligation on health boards to set aside a proportion of their research funds for research into the causes and effect of muscular dystrophy or to fund any research project approved by the Secretary of State into its causes and effects.

He said that although the disease was not apparent at birth it was detectable at birth by a process which was used in Japan and Germany, and to some extent in France, but not in this country.

The disease would destroy half a child's muscle by the age of five, and the child would be a cripple. The process was to take place detection at birth was vital. There should be

universal testing for the disease at birth.

If the disease followed its usual course a child was in a wheelchair by the age of eight, then subject to progressive shortening of the body and the child would be a cripple. The disease would destroy half a child's muscle by the age of five, and the child would be a cripple. The process was to take place detection at birth was vital. There should be

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SPORT

Rugby Union

Cuthbertson's fitness only doubt as Scots field unchanged side

By Peter West

Rugby Correspondent

After a promising victory over Wales in the first leg of the Calcutta Cup match, Scotland's selectors have announced an unchanged side for Saturday's second leg. They will be hoping that the only doubt about the team will be the fitness of the players who have been in the line-up since the first leg. The selectors have named a side which is a blend of the old and the new, with a strong emphasis on the back. The front row is unchanged, with the exception of the scrum-half, who has been replaced by the more experienced Jim McRae. The back three is a blend of the old and the new, with the exception of the full-back, who has been replaced by the more experienced Jim McRae. The selectors have named a side which is a blend of the old and the new, with a strong emphasis on the back. The front row is unchanged, with the exception of the scrum-half, who has been replaced by the more experienced Jim McRae. The back three is a blend of the old and the new, with the exception of the full-back, who has been replaced by the more experienced Jim McRae.

Swansea are back to square one at No 9

By a Staff Reporter

Loughborough have a good chance of winning the University Athletic Union rugby title for the eighth time, but first they must overcome Swansea in the quarter-final at Clifton today (kick-off 2.30).

A solid performance by the Loughborough pack was the foundation of their 4-3 victory over Exeter in the last round, and they are looking to build on this. The Loughborough pack was the foundation of their 4-3 victory over Exeter in the last round, and they are looking to build on this. The Loughborough pack was the foundation of their 4-3 victory over Exeter in the last round, and they are looking to build on this.

Rugby League

Still an experimental look about England pack

By Keith Macklin

Although the days of experimentation in the England team are said to be over, there is an interesting new and experimental look about the pack in the European championship game against France at Headingley on Saturday.

The manager of the England team, Colin Hutton, said yesterday that he and the coach, John Whiteley, agreed that the time had come to stop using the England side as a trial ground for Great Britain players. From now on, Hutton said, players would be named on the basis of merit.

Skiing

Miss Nadig wins with help from her snow troops

By Peter West

Maribor, Feb. 10.—Marie-Thérèse Nadig, of West Germany, won the World Cup giant slalom after two runs, with a combined time of 2min 34.46sec. Nadig, 22, of West Germany, was second in 2min 32.01sec and her sister Irene third after winning the slalom in this northern town. Nadig's victory was a surprise, as she had only won the slalom in this northern town. Nadig's victory was a surprise, as she had only won the slalom in this northern town.

Biathlon

Finns look out of range

By Peter West

Lahti, Finland, Feb. 10.—East Germany's Soviet Union biathletes are expected to win most of the medals at the world biathlon championships, beginning tomorrow. The Soviet Union biathletes are expected to win most of the medals at the world biathlon championships, beginning tomorrow. The Soviet Union biathletes are expected to win most of the medals at the world biathlon championships, beginning tomorrow.

Latest snow reports from Europe

By Peter West

The following reports have been received from our sources:

Depth (cm) Snow (cm) Wind (km/h) Cloud (%)

1. Austria: 70-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

2. Germany: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

3. France: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

4. Italy: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

5. Norway: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

6. Sweden: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

7. Switzerland: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

8. Czech Republic: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

9. Poland: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

10. Slovakia: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

11. Hungary: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

12. Romania: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

13. Bulgaria: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

14. Greece: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

15. Turkey: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

16. Cyprus: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

17. Malta: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

18. Iceland: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

19. Faroe Islands: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

20. Greenland: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

21. Arctic Circle: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

22. Antarctic Circle: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

23. North Pole: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

24. South Pole: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

25. Equator: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

26. Tropic of Cancer: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

27. Tropic of Capricorn: 100-200, 10-20, 10-20, 10-20

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THE ARTS

Books

Edwardian Childhoods

By Thea Thompson

(Routledge & Kegan Paul, £9.75)

"As kids we used to go up to the funeral and have a good tuck-in. It was something like the Irish have, the Wakes, you know. I had an uncle who played the accordion—and after the funeral, with this home-made wine which was getting the better of them, Uncle would play the accordion, and those who could dance would dance, and those who could sing would sing, and it ended up with quite a nice, gay evening. We enjoyed people dying in those days."

The voice is that of Clifford Hills, born May 21, 1904, the fourth son of William and Lily Hills. Till he died five years ago, he had never lived anywhere other than the village of Great Bentley in Essex, apart from a stint in the Royal Armoured Corps in the Second World War.

He was a child of what now sometimes seem (wrongly) the golden days before 1914. Thea Thompson's book has his snapshot in a Lord Fauntleroy suit, next to his shepherd father, and another of him, dressed up again, to marry a gypsy girl his mother disapproved of. But a snapshot is only one frozen moment in time. On Thea Thompson's tape-recorded, she spoke the film-script of his early life. We are privileged to sit in the paternal cinema of his memories.

In fact, her book is a multi-screen movie of those long-dead decades. There are other scripts here, besides Cliff Hills' recollections. Those decades may be dead to me (born August 24, 1935) but nothing dies for those who have lived through it. And this charming book breathes with life from first page to last.

It had its origin in a mammoth social history exercise, which began 14 years ago. With other interviewers, Thea Thompson talked to people at the time. I must say that I think a more cavalier, more journalistic approach might have worked just as well. The nine she prints here are not really representative of anything other than themselves. They fit the journalistic bill: they tell a good story.

But everyone reading these interviews will catch some echoes of what their own parents or grandparents have told them. They grew up. Cliff Hills' family were poor; they had to sit at the back of the church on Sundays. But Thea Thompson also records the gentry, like Henry Wigmore, born of a stockbroking family in 1838.

We set about the second row on the side. "We were on the pupil side, which was very annoying, because you couldn't go to sleep very easily."

Children's lives are lived on a small scale, as Thea Thompson rightly says. And here you get the fine grain of being brought up in the South London slums, in a Lancashire cotton town, in smart suburbia, or in genteel poverty in Stockport.

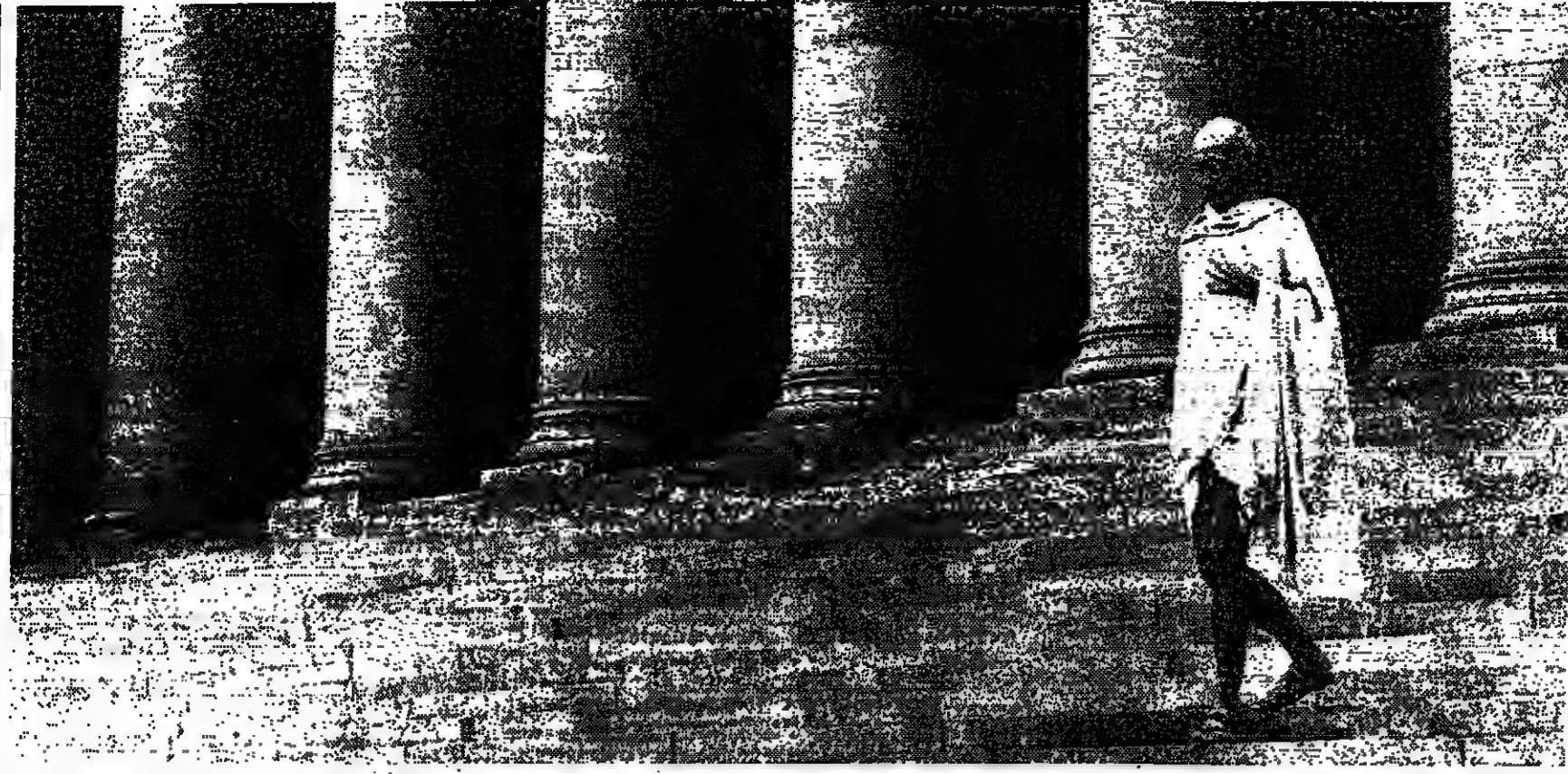
It was Geoffrey Brady who lives in Stockport; and I think he is one of the most enlightening chapters. After all, many of their lives in memoirs; and many working people have been at the receiving end of sociologists. But Mr Brady is between and between. His father and grandfather owned a cotton mill. But the business failed, and Geoffrey went down in the world.

They moved to a tiny house, and when he met old school friends he found he now had a penny a week pocket money. He remembered his father selling his watch to buy food. He left school at 14 to commute in a bowler hat to a Manchester office. There he would lick stamps and light first-class.

Because of his business get-up he looked older than he was. When he was 17, during the First World War, and still too young to volunteer, he was presented with a feather in a railway carriage. "It was rather unpleasant."

I've no doubt it was a great deal more than unpleasant. But Thea Thompson catches the language of her nine Edwardians and never tinkers with it.

Paul Barker



Ben Kingsley on location

Dedicated approach to the life of Gandhi

Delhi. Gandhi walking, Gandhi squatting, Gandhi still, Gandhi sad, smiling, pensive, quizzical: pictures of the Mahatma are on every wall in Ben Kingsley's hotel room in Delhi. He has made for himself a kind of Gandhi immersion tank and after each day's work on Richard Attenborough's film life of Gandhi he retreats here to do what Gandhi did almost every day: he folds his legs beneath him and spins cotton on a rhythmically rattling wooden wheel.

Gandhi made rough cloth to spin himself, setting store by simple humble labour, and urged others to do the same. He also made the wheel both symbol and weapon in the resistance to British rule, telling Indians they must spin to clothe themselves and help to undermine the colonial textile trade which fettered them.

The wheel exemplified certain moral values, faith and humility, and also the determination which characterized the Gandhis. It was a symbol of the spinning wheel against which Gandhi and his disciples saw it as a device for purification and defiance, others regarded it as a stockbroking faddishness, like the diets, hair-shirring and self-imposed challenges to sexual abstinence.

"The spinning wheel was one of Gandhi's signatures, so much a part of his story that I do not think it would be possible to

play him without learning how to spin", Kingsley says. "It is partly a matter of allowing the molecules to settle, as Gandhi knew. It also helps me to understand the man and the country. Every evening, after a day on the set, I spend a couple of hours with my spinning and yoga teachers, and this ritual has not only helped me to relax and exercise, to keep fit and to sleep properly in Indian fashion. It has also helped me to stop being terrified of the task I have."

"Gandhi is by far the most challenging and draining thing I have done. He was a quite extraordinary man of titanic energy, endurance and movement. But he also had a great capacity for silliness. This polarity made the man and provides an essential challenge for those who attempt to portray him."

"You cannot have him on a perpetual salt march, dictating pearls of wisdom on the way. Now can you have him just sitting and thinking. He was a man of action, but as far as we know, he never harmed anyone. He kept to his belief in non-violence, but he burned with a flame ever since he was called a wog."

"One of the problems is that history confuses one's exploration of the character. While there are many ways of interpreting Shakespeare's great characters, there is, essentially, only one way for Gandhi. After

all, many people knew him and his speeches and their nuances are on the record; there are films and photographs which show how he walked, talked, laughed and gestured. "I have to get Gandhi right. That is why I have his pictures on every wall, why I am constantly learning about him, why I spin. I hope and home because the target is smaller."

"I have to try to put over so many of Gandhi's facets: his capacity for endurance, his searching intelligence, his experiments with truth, his political ability, his qualities of leadership. I want to show why he was one of the great men of this century."

Kingsley, a Royal Shakespeare Company player who made his mark with a notable Hamlet, and in the title role of Brecht's *Baal*, was playing *Wickford Squares* in the RSC's *Nicholas Nickleby* when Richard Attenborough offered him the part.

Attenborough had been planning his Gandhi epic for 13 years and sees it as the most important work of his life. He is now nearly halfway through the shooting schedule of what, in India, is a controversial subject. Thirty-two years after his death, the Mahatma can still arouse strong feelings. Many Indians are embarrassed still by what Churchill called "a half-naked fakir" and many in the younger generation know little of him. Others believe

that Gandhi's saintliness and greatness are beyond any filmmaker's competence, and there are those who think the great man can only be represented cinematically by an incandescent light. Attenborough was determined his Gandhi would be no Tinkerbell—and, clearly, the choice of an actor to play was crucial.

Kingsley is of Indian descent. His grandfather came from Gujarat, not far from where Gandhi was born, and migrated to Africa as a child. His father migrated from Africa to England, married an Englishwoman and became a doctor in Manchester.

"I was not surprised by the controversy over the film. I am familiar with the Indian temperament and the capacity for debate which my dad and others of my family had", Kingsley says.

"I knew something of Gandhi. I remember my father speaking to me proudly of India's independence when I was five years old, and I made some study of Gandhi's life when I worked on Trevor Griffiths' play *Occupations* and needed to look at men who had fought oppression. And, curiously enough, two weeks before Richard telephoned me to offer me the part, my wife had brought me a Gandhi biography from the library and I was reading it every night."

"When the offer came, I was in the middle of *Nicholas Nickleby*, I was overjoyed and

quite shocked that the slender threads of preparation of my part were connected with slender threads elsewhere."

"When I arrived in India I was concerned there might not be a rapport between myself and the history, a rapport that cannot be manufactured but is absolutely essential if you are playing a country's greatest man. It might be possible to do without rapport on the stage, where the environment is controlled but here the environment is not controlled and we work on huge locations, making a film about India as well as Gandhi."

"This is the first time I have been in India and I love it. I felt so ill-equipped, but there are all sorts of resonances to help me, doing things where Gandhi did them, walking the steps he walked and standing where he stood."

"I do not need to wear body make-up, and only a little face make-up to age me, and that makes me feel less of an impostor. I've lost 17 pounds and my yoga helps me to achieve baby-like postures without discomfort. I talk endlessly with my teachers about India."

"I am dedicated to the task, and I recognized long ago that in order to breathe life into this gigantic character I would have to start from the humble beginning and do my best."

Trevor Fishlock

Play about Eadweard Muybridge

A new play, *Snip*, by Nigel Gearing, about the Victorian photographer Eadweard Muybridge whose work laid the foundations of the modern motion picture and who was also the last person to be acquitted in the United States for "crime passionnel" will be presented at the Theatre at the End of the Foco Nova, London, on March 3, with Roland Rees directing.

Kent Opera's spring season will open at Tunbridge Wells on March 12 with a revival of Jonathan Miller's production of *Così fan tutte*, which was first seen in 1974. Catherine McCord, Margaret Cable, William Shimell, Neil Jenkins, Anne Paschley and Alan Watt make up the cast. Other productions for the spring tour will be *Falstaff* and the double bill of *Monteverdi's Il Ballo delle Ingate* and John Blow's *Venus and Adonis*.

Brian Friel's *Translations*, which was first mounted in London and then presented at the Dublin Festival last year, will be at the Hampstead Theatre in May. It will be a new production, directed by Donald McWhinnie. The current production at Hampstead, Jean-Claude Grumberg's *The Workshop*, has had its run extended by a week and will now continue until February 21. The new Mike Leigh play will thus now open on March 3, with a cast of Marion Bailey, Jill Baker, Jim Broadbent, Paul Jesson and Antony Sher.

RSC playreading at the Warehouse

On March 12, at 7.30 pm, members of the RSC will give a playreading at the Warehouse of a new play, *Babel*. It is based on the account of the building of the Tower of Babel in Genesis, and has been jointly written by four members of the RSC's Writers' Workshop. This is the first venture of this new group set up by the RSC's former literary manager, Walter Donohue, as part of the company's policy to encourage new writers. It has been funded by the Gulbenkian Foundation. Tickets at £1 are available from the Aldwych Theatre box office.

A royal introduction

Samsouci Windsor Arts Centre

Stanley Sadie

A programme of music connected with Frederick, Prince of Wales—not the Prussian Frederick suggested by the name of the ensemble, provided an appropriate introduction on Sunday for a new arts centre in Royal Windsor, due to open formally later this month. Built in 1906 as a magistrates' court and police station, it now has a lofty, ornate hall with a steeply pitched auditorium, seating nearly 200, with what seems a decidedly forthcoming acoustic.

Frederick, eldest son of George II, died in 1751; he was a cellist, perhaps a flautist, and a patron of opera and of several leading London musicians. The items, selected by Derek McCulloch, included concertos by two well-known foreign composers who made their careers here. One for flute by Wilhelm de Fesch, with some fine, but not unworldly ideas, including a vigorous fugue (always a sure winner for the English public in those days) and some *Water Music* echoes, was delightfully played by Jenny Thomas; and one for violin by Giuseppe Sammartini, old-fashioned, stately Corellian music (again something to please the English) but with rather feeble quick movements, was played by David Reichenberg, who draws a sweet cantabile from his baroque oboe.

A good deal more interesting, surprisingly perhaps, was a keyboard concerto by Frederick the Great's sister, Wilhelmine, who at one time was betrothed to the English Frederick. Only the orchestral parts survive, and the concerto was done here in a brilliantly stylish reconstruction by the harpsichordist Paul Nicholson, whose solo part I am sure is more interesting than Wilhelmine's lost original. The work is attractive in an energetic P. E. Bach-like vein but with a final gavotte more tuneful than he would have countenanced. Mr Nicholson played it in dashing style.

If Wilhelmine was a gifted composer, so, on the evidence of a cantata attributed to him, far too good a composer to have spent his life as a prince. Or perhaps far too good to be true—one suspects that a generously helping professional hand of an English composer of Anne's generation may have been involved, on the evidence of this tentative, very English-sounding French overture and the graceful minuet aria. Elizabeth Lane sang it spiritedly; earlier she gave a cantata by Handel. The le flamenco (the elaborate bass viol obbligato was competently played by Ann Fahri) and a charming, vocally grateful one by Porpora. Her voice emerged a little flat in this room, and not ideally apt to marry with authentic instruments; the Samsouci ensemble, based on 11 strings, showed plenty of enthusiasm but might have benefited from more decisive, pointed leadership.

played with a kind of sustained intimacy which brought an element of Orpheus among the beasts to the proceedings. (That made one particularly transitional thematic glance in the direction of Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 4 seem most apt.)

The orchestra again asserted itself, but the piano insisted and Mr Barenboim maintained a crystalline purity even when, later, the solo part became involved with more emotional ideas.

In the slow movements, the keyboard playing was again full of delicate perception, of moments of surprising insight, the realization of which was at many points imaginatively aided by Mr Dutoit. The rondo had similar qualities, though less poised, less sense of wholeness.

Almost a hundred years, 1786 to 1881, separate this Mozart piece from Mr Barenboim's other concertos, the Brahms No 2. Here an emotional wealth comparable to that implicit in the earlier work is made explicit, and in the first movement at least, the interpretation was rather self-consciously heaven storming, with some consequently fast tempos and moments of disturbing overemphasis. For some, no doubt, the vividness was more than apparent, and Mr Barenboim

A drama from life

City! Granada

Miles Kingston

For several months in late 1980 Granada's cameras were allowed to roam free at Manchester City's Maine Road ground, even into board meetings and half-time team-talks and the result on Monday was billed as the frankest film about football. But it was not. How could it be, considering there was no mention of corruption, or under-the-counter deals, or deliberate crippling of other players, or the way footballers can leave the game at 30 with the knee joints of a man of 60?

No, the film was something finer than that, a moving portrait of two impressive men standing head and torso above the banality of football. Quite simply, the producers, Dave Drury, started work in the last week of the reign as manager of Malcolm Allison, who was due for the chop if he lost his next two games. In his early fifties, Allison has film-star toughness going for him, he knows how to use when facing the press, even when trying to persuade them that the first game, a 3-0 home defeat by Liverpool, was somehow a stride forward by City. But we saw a different man when he was caught off-guard by the cameras, a furiously involved Allison urging the team on from the touchline, a sad and tired Allison as the Liverpool goals mounted up, even a kind and concerned Allison trying to

motivate his young players in a training session.

When City lost again to Leeds in the over-bar, a touching farewell scene with Allison ruffling his team's hair as if they were all sons leaving home, and time for the entry of the second star, the new manager, John Bond. Bond looks like a mature version of Melvyn Bragg, and in the stead of Allison's own talk, has a soft country burr, yet tremendous dignity and strength. No touchline jumping up and down for him, but a belief in discipline and simplicity, and an ironic awareness that 25 years before he and Allison had been team-mates, with Allison always the dominant partner. Now Bond took over from Allison and proceeded to guide City to a string of stirring victories.

By another ironic chance (now Drury must have given thanks to the gods of filming schedules) City were then drawn in the Cup against Allison's new team, Crystal Palace, who were demolished 4-0. The final contrast between Bond's bubbling behaviour in the changing room and Allison's slumped figure, unable to produce even a word for his players was almost too poignant. Bond could not resist a quiet satisfaction at the way Allison's eyes came good. What Allison thought of Bond we never heard. Perhaps it was just as well. It was the only thing missing from a superb drama, which just happened to be drawn from real life.

by her slack and swallowed German and a lack of support disturbed the melodic thread and made her voice almost impossible. Mark Tallow was an earnestly supportive but expressively reticent accompanist.

Puccini's delicious *I Crisanti* revealed in the Fairfield Quartet contrasting weaknesses. Their technically assured but tentative, over-careful playing inhibited them—from sinking into the music's opulent melancholy; these were skill chrysantheums, and still in bud. Musically far less satisfying, Ivor Jirasek's disturbed yet never String Quartet *Four Studies for String Quartet* through their many and astringent rhetorical effects, were good showpieces for a wide variety of technical skills; the players acquitted themselves well through glissandi, pizzicati, sustained intensity, hard, percussive bowing and virtuosic cadenzas.

They have been together for only two years and Dvorak's *E flat Quartet*, Op 51 showed that, partly because of a lack of distinctive leadership, their ensemble is not well shaped and assured enough yet to liberate their none the less conscientious playing. Their warmly blended tone and their soundly, particularly in the rhythmic, undiminished Dvorak and somewhat untroubled Finales, needed bolder and more courageous projection.

Fairfield Quartet Wigmore Hall

Hilary Finch

It felt like a cross between a private party and a music festival, the young artists given a valuable platform by the Workshop Company of Musicians and financed by the Maieis Lewis Young Artists Fund produced between them on Monday a programme of entertainingly heterogeneous party pieces.

First came Rosemary Middleton, a young soprano with a strong stage presence and even stronger voice which should be the time being kept well clear of the seventeenth century. Her *Poulenc: Trois Poèmes de Louise Lalonde* fared better than the vocally drowned ayres of Nicholas Lanier; yet here, too, an over-heavy vibrato, unfocused head voice and over-exaggerated phrasing bruised their lyrics and pathos.

Miss Middleton was more at home in Rossini's bubblingly extrovert *Serata Musicale*; her voice has a radiant core, a wide and flexible range of pitch and dynamics, a strongly dramatic potential, but its energy is constantly dissipated by not being harnessed to a reliable technique. The interpretative sensitivity and mature expressive intentions of her Brahms and Liszt songs were frustrated

Improvement notice must include statutory content

Canterbury City Council v Bern

Before Lord Justice Donaldson and Mr Justice Forbes beginning with [Judgment delivered February 5]

Where a statutory notice is required to contain a particular content, a document which fails to include such content or significantly omits part of it does not qualify as a notice under the statute, and accordingly any statutory right of appeal which might be available with regard to such a document is not available with regard to the document.

The Divisional Court so held when dismissing an appeal by Mr Michael Gordon Young, city secretary, Canterbury City Council, against the dismissal by Canterbury Justices of his complaint against Mr Archibald Charles Bern, of Whitstable, Kent, that he had prevented the council's workmen from getting into the house, and was prosecuted for the obstruction. Whether he was guilty or not depended on whether the original improvement notice was a good one. If it was bad, so he argued, the council had no power to enter and was entitled to obstruct them. The justices held that the notice was bad and dismissed the charge. Now the council appealed.

Section 90(1) of the Housing Act, 1974, provides "... a notice under this section ... referred to as an improvement notice ... shall specify the works which in the opinion of the local authority are required to improve the dwelling to the full standard of decency and convenience ... estimate of the cost of carrying out those works; and (c) require the person having control of the dwelling to carry out to the authority's satisfaction the works specified in the notice within the period of 12 months beginning with the date when the improvement notice becomes operative or such longer period as the authority may direct in writing from time to time allow."

Schedule 6 to the Act provides: "Standard amenities. A local authority may require a person having control of a dwelling to provide a hot and cold water supply at a fixed bath or shower ... A wash-hand basin ... A hot and cold water supply at a sink ... A water closet ... The council's Miss Judith Jackson for Mr Bern.

MR JUSTICE FORBES said that Part III of the Act was concerned with the compulsory improvement of dwellings. Local authorities might declare certain areas to be in need of improvement under the Housing Act, 1969, or housing action areas under Part IV of the 1974 Act. When they did this, they had powers to order persons in control of dwellings to improve them by providing "the standard amenities". These were: a bath or shower, a water closet, a hot and cold water supply, a wash-basin and a sink. They also had power by section 90 to require a person having control of a dwelling to provide "the standard amenities".

Section 90 provided that the occupier of a dwelling which was without one or more of the standard amenities could write to his local authority suggesting that they should exercise their powers under the section. The "person having control of the dwelling" was then notified. The local authority then had to consider the matter and, if satisfied that the necessary improvement was required, it was to issue a notice requiring the person having control of the dwelling to provide the standard amenities. The effect of that notice, which was also served on the occupier, was that all the interested parties had an opportunity of discussing with the local authority any proposals for improvement or any alternative proposals, and the local authority must take into account any representations made. Thereafter the local authority might, within 12 months of the original request of the tenant, serve an improvement notice on a person having control of the dwelling. After the service of the notice anyone interested in the property might appeal to the County Court against the notice.

If such an appeal were brought the notice would not take effect before the final determination of the appeal, but if there were no appeal it took effect six weeks after its date of service. The improvement notice would have specified a period for the carrying out of the works it required to be done, and if those works were not done within that period, the local authority could do the works themselves. Section 96 of the Act imposed the provisions of the Housing Act, 1974, so that it was an offence for an owner or occupier to prevent the agents or workmen of the local authority from carrying out those works.

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For those reasons the document served in the present case was not an improvement notice under the Act. Because of that the County Court would probably have no jurisdiction to entertain an appeal under section 91 as it applied only to appeals against improvement notices.

Lord Justice Donaldson agreed. Solicitors: Mr M. G. P. Young, Canterbury; Furley, Page, Fielding & Pemberton, Canterbury.

'Sworn' not enough

Regina v Khan

The Court of Appeal stated that when a witness is sworn, he is

proffered, as a witness, and is questioned by a trial judge in order for him to form an opinion whether the witness is telling the truth or not. The questioning should form part of the shorthand note and transcript of the proceedings.

Mr Justice Kilner Brown felt was wrong with Lord Justice Goff's judgment allowing an appeal by Lal Khan, aged 43, against conviction of living on the prostitution earnings of the 14-year-old daughter of the woman, with whom he was living.

His LORDSHIP said that the transcript, after the summing-up, recorded merely "sworn" in brackets. The Registrar of Criminal Appeals had properly made inquiries of the shorthand writer, who had said it occurred with normal practice in records was taken. The usual accepted practice of questioning a witness in shorthand was recorded in section 28(1) of the Children and Young Persons Act 1937. When there was such an inquiry by the shorthand writer, it should be recorded so that it would appear in the official transcript.

Mr Bern was the occupying tenant of the building concerned. It was he who entered and he by making representations that his dwelling should be improved. All of the above complicated procedure was gone through even to the extent of the owner putting in a wash-basin and we adding the council to put in a bath. The proposal, however, seemed at that stage to have fallen out of favour with Mr Bern, who preferred to sleep in the bedroom where the bath was to be installed. He apparently jibbed at sharing his bedroom with the bath, though accepting the bath and the wc. He therefore prevented the council's workmen from getting into the house, and was prosecuted for the obstruction. Whether he was guilty or not depended on whether the original improvement notice was a good one. If it was bad, so he argued, the council had no power to enter and was entitled to obstruct them. The justices held that the notice was bad and dismissed the charge. Now the council appealed.

There were two points of law at issue: first, whether the improvement notice complied with the statutory requirements for such notices; and secondly, whether, if it did not, its validity was open to challenge at the present stage. The council argued that the notice was "the council ... hereby requiring you to carry out within 12 months ... the works specified in the notice ... Provide a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom. Provide a wash-hand basin. Provide a hot and cold water supply to wash-hand basin. Provide a hot water supply at a fixed bath or shower, accessible from within the dwelling."

No estimate of cost was given. The question whether, in that form, the notice specified "the works ... required to improve the dwelling to the full standard of decency and convenience" was not, in the list of amenities in Schedule 6 to the 1974 Act. By no stretch of the imagination could it be said to be a specification of works.

The matter should be decided on the basis of common sense and the ordinary use of the language. If Parliament intended to specify merely which of a list of standard amenities that the person in control of the dwelling had to provide, it would have said so. It did not, but chose to say that the council had to specify works. Those works were two distinct requirements, and the notice, because it only required the recipient to provide a list of amenities, failed to specify any works at all. In relation to the second issue, bearing on the second issue raised by the appeal, there were three mandatory elements in a notice under section 90: it had to specify the works or cost but did give a time within which to carry out unspecified works and the section required notice to be given of a period within which the works were to be done. Without a specification of the period, the notice was defective in that particular as well. It thus contained none of the statutory elements.

From the statutory provisions, and from the decision in *West Ham Corporation v Ashford* (1963) 1 QB 233, it was possible to deduce the proposition that, where a notice of demand was required by Parliament to contain a list of amenities, and it was plain that only a notice with that content was declared to have the effect of a statutory notice, a notice which failed to include that content or made some significant omission from the content required, did not qualify as a notice under the section. It was not a defective or invalid notice which could be cured by amendment or otherwise: it simply never began to have any statutory force or effect.

For those reasons the document served in the present case was not an improvement notice under the Act. Because of that the County Court would probably have no jurisdiction to entertain an appeal under section 91 as it applied only to appeals against improvement notices.

Lord Justice Donaldson agreed. Solicitors: Mr M. G. P. Young, Canterbury; Furley, Page, Fielding & Pemberton, Canterbury.

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THE RETURN OF ONE OF THE SCREEN'S TRUE CLASSICS!

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FROM TOMORROW

FROM TOMORROW

مكتبة الأصل

PRIVATE EYE



Don't change a thing

Dear Lord Gnome:

Reports have reached us in your lower up the Gray's Inn Road that your esteemed organ is celebrating its 500th birthday. Muckrakers and the like may claim that you have become part of the Establishment, or alternatively that you are prep school hoodlums who never grew up; that you are running out of ideas; and that they no longer wish to buy you every other week.

Nothing could be further from the truth. It would be hard to conceive a more dispassionate and unprejudiced title. I am assured by David Birch, managing director of Private Eye, that your organ's circulation has reached an apogee of nearly 150,000, with a subscription list of 33,000. I note that books translated from the collector's parts of your organ, such as *Dear Bill*, boast at the top of the best seller lists for months.

It is said that only between 3 per cent and 10 per cent of your revenue comes from advertising, mainly in the form of those remarkable small ads for "services" at the back. I would like to make it clear that it is not our intention to allege that anything improper is about to take place; but it is whispered in the corridors of the Coach and Horses that you are going to put the cover price for your services up to 35p next month.

If we were in a position to put a team of our top reporters onto the exposure of an immensely complicated financial skulduggery that occupies the part of your paper that nobody reads, we might well ask what happens to that not inconsiderable loot. We know about your *château* in the Dordogne, where you, M. Luncheon O'Boyle, and your other friends and contributors retire to discuss Gabonese affairs while drinking Perrier water.

There is a dispute going on at present in the Letters column of the *Granadine* between you and Sir James Goldsmith about the exact cost of his litigation with you. He says that the true amount is in excess of £100,000. You now say £40,000 plus £30,000 over the next 10 years to Mr Eric Levine, Sir James's solicitor. Sir James offers to pay you four pounds for the difference between your £70,000 and his £100,000 estimate, if the true cost can be established objectively. What is indisputable beyond a peradventure is that his litigation put you on the map, and that he is the best advertising agent you have.

It is said that a large propor-

tion of your not inconsiderable profits are swallowed up by legal costs. Any residue is shared around the staff in bonuses, which, has happened for the past two years, come on, Gnomey baby!!! Who'da thinka are??? Pull the other one, it's got bells on it. (Geddit?)

You certainly seem to have sex on the brain, which, in my humble opinion, is an unsatisfactory place to have it. Why are you so beastly about women, Jews, homosexuals, and your other stock victims? Can it really be true that the good burghers of Auchtermuchty and Grantmuth are as obsessed with the trivial titillations of Fleet Street and the Beeb as you are? Could you not bring yourself, just once, to make a voluntary, proper apology when you get something scandalously wrong and have debagged and torred and feathered an innocent in public? Indeed you are a sea-green incorruptible, but, in an elusive way, never to check anything because the truth is often denied, is also corrupt.

Any of us poor backs who has had to follow up one of your fearless exposures in a flap late at night knows that they are often built on a foundation of painted smoke and malice. When we can't believe the Coach and Horses that you are going to put the cover price for your services up to 35p next month.

So, Lord Gnome Felicitations. On your 500th birthday. (Shame mistake here shurely—W.R.M.)

Yes, You are Right. Five Hundred in issues, not years. May your organ never Diminish.

Keith's Mum Says that you are a decadent and rude. And suppose that you ought to wish That you grow Kinder In your middle-age. But then, You would not be Half so much fun.

E. J. THIRIB (sic) Philip Howard

ADVERTISEMENT

Feeling Sorry's Not Enough

—especially for Tess, who can't walk more than 300 yards

Shopping is a near impossibility. Nearly 80, she can only walk very slowly, so life becomes more and more difficult, and more lonely. Neighbours sometimes help with shopping, and she gets a little help from the local authority. There is no near relative.

So, at a time when she should be able to take life easily, it's a very hard and isolated struggle. She feels increasingly helpless, and very lonely.

It's to help old people like Tess that Help the Aged needs funds—to provide more sheltered flats; to assist medical work for the frail, day centres for the lonely, and minibuses for volunteer transport for the housebound.

Whether you can send £5 or £500 it will be carefully used to give genuine help to old people in great need. Thanks to many willing volunteers each pound achieves a great deal.

Time is not on the side of the old. If you are, please send generously to: Hon. Treasurer, The Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Room 15, Freepost 30, London, W1E 7JZ. (No stamp needed.)

Why the EEC should turn its back on agriculture

Farming is no longer central to Europe's concerns, employing only a dwindling minority of workers. The real problems are industrial, and for these the Community has no coherent set of policies

"The trouble with us", one of the more astute EEC Commissioners remarked a few years ago, "is that we consist of one minister for agriculture and twelve observers." It is still true to say that agriculture is the one area of the European Community where effective sovereignty has passed from the national to the European level, and the one area where the Community has definite and effective policies.

These policies are not very good ones. They take up the lion's share of the Community's budget, preempting resources which could be better used elsewhere. And, by featherbedding European farmers, they contribute substantially to Europe's inflation.

But that, in a sense, is not the worst aspect of the EEC's preoccupation with agriculture. The fact is that agriculture is no longer central to Europe's concerns. It employs a dwindling minority of Europe's workers. Food is no longer in short supply in the western world.

Europe's central problems are industrial. And for these the European Community has no strategy and no coherent set of policies. This is perhaps the biggest indictment which can be laid at the door of the EEC, as Europe enters the 1980s with unemployment rates already approaching those of 30 years ago.

So the central problem confronting Europe's leaders is not just to reform the Common Agricultural Policy, in order to prevent the Community institutions from bankrupting themselves. It is to tilt the balance of Community policies away from agriculture towards industrial policies, which lie at the heart of the economic crisis.

This is only partly a matter of expenditure, of freeing-up resources and boosting the social and regional funds, for example.

More fundamentally, it is a question of establishing a set

of industrial policies which will fill the present vacuum, and enable the Community to tackle the industrial crisis collectively. It is a question of complementing a reformed Common Agricultural policy with a new, dynamic common industrial policy.

This may seem so obvious that it hardly needs saying. But the fact is that until now nobody has said it. The Community has no industrial strategy. The ministers concerned with industrial policy seldom meet. The funds devoted to industrial development and re-structuring at Community level are derisory.

One group of European members of parliament, the European Democrats (essentially British Conservatives, with a slight leavening of Danes), has now made a serious attempt to remedy this deficiency. Their Report on Industrial Policy, prepared by a working party under the chairmanship of Sir David Nicholson, M.C.P. for Central London, published on January 29, represents an ambitious attempt to alter the focus of EEC policy from agriculture to industry and to create a better climate for industrial relations. (This aspect will be the concern of the new British Commissioner, Mr Ivor Richard, about whose role I wrote in my last article in these columns.)

The fifth leg of the policy is the strengthening of the infrastructure of the European economy. Last, but not least, comes the establishment of the financial structures—including social and regional funds—which will be needed to make it all happen.

The European Democrats' report can do little more than sketch in the rough outlines of what needs to be done under

all these headings to turn Europe's ailing economies around. It is properly chary of seeking to transfer too much responsibility from national to Community level. The main focus of activity has to remain at the level of private enterprise in the first place, and of national governments in the second.

But there is a vital role to be played at Community level in establishing the overall strategy, in underpinning national efforts and ensuring that they are mutually supportive and not mutually destructive tasks which cannot be done effectively at any other level.

Thus, if the Community is to realize the advantages of the large single market which the Rome Treaty stipulated—the world's biggest trading block—it has to resist all attempts to whittle down the area of free trade by national protectionism, and eliminate the barriers to trade and the unfair trading practices which still exist. Competition policy must be maintained. There can be no return to the curlews and trade barriers which impoverished Europe in the 1930s.

The "laissez-faire" policies by themselves will not be enough to enable Europe to tackle the triple crisis it now faces—the impact of recession, the threats and opportunities presented by the technological revolution of automation and computers, and the new wave of competition from Japan and the newly-industrialized coun-

tries of Asia and elsewhere. Europe has to have a coherent strategy for moving its industrial base up-market, away from the older labour-intensive industries into the new high-technology ones.

This requires the willingness and the ability to restructure declining industries such as steel, shipbuilding, textiles and clothing, some sectors of chemicals and some consumer durables, to a form in which they can compete. It also requires a much more concerted attempt to build up the new industries, many of which require a European rather than a national market to fund the research and development and the investment needed for survival.

Because of the importance of the defence sector as a market for high technology, Europe should look again at the case for building up its own defence capability and reducing its reliance on the United States.

The key industries in this context include aircraft, rockets, aero-engines, nuclear systems, advanced weapon systems, computers, telecommunications systems and data networks. In this area hardware is less important than human skills and know-how, and the availability of venture capital to exploit them. It should be a prime responsibility of the European Community to see that these resources, in which Europe has traditionally been strong, are not squandered or allowed to rust. We cannot allow the process of recent

years, in which all the European countries have fallen behind the Americans and now the Japanese, to continue. This means a determined attempt to modernize Europe's infrastructure, both human and capital—including its fragmented transport system, and its equally fragmented and too often parochial institutions.

All this requires, first, political will and imagination; and secondly, the money. The money will come from five sources: an enlarged Community budget; direct transfers of funds from national governments for specific purposes within the industry policy but outside the normal budget allocations; loan finance raised by the EEC itself; funds from the European Investment Bank; and private sources of loan capital.

The European Democrats are prepared to see an increase in the total Community budget, through increasing the proportion of VAT revenues (currently 1 per cent) transferred from national governments to the Community. But they would also expect a progressive reduction in the proportion of the EEC budget spent on the CAP, from the present 70 per cent to somewhere under 50 per cent. They propose a new EEC Industrial Development Fund to help to underwrite investment in new technology and infrastructure improvements.

The Nicolson Report is not a comprehensive blueprint, but a serious attempt to tackle Europe's biggest problem of the 1980s, and to bring the Community institutions—originally designed to meet the problems of the 1950s—face to face with the very different world of the 1980s. As such, it deserves at least two cheers and what is more important—serious and sustained debate. The problem which it addresses are not going to go away if we continue to ignore them.

Michael Shanks

Bernard Levin

Solved after a certain initial confusion



Schubert, Beethoven and Mozart: look in the index.

What is WoO (and why) and who is Hob? A clue: they are related to D. BWV (aka Schmieder), and K, though this K, of course, is nothing to do with the other K, who has in any case been succeeded by H.

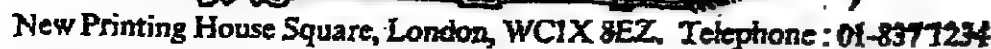
I confess that until recently I had never heard of WoO or Hob, despite my acquaintance with the other members of the family, and I am still unable to answer my second question (why is WoO?). But I met both of them at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, in the company of K—the first K, naturally, the second one being, among other things, dead. (He was killed in a most extraordinary fashion; our yachting, he was struck by a seaplane coming in to land.)

Enough of mystery. In the world of music, the initials above, which are always used instead of the names, they stand for, refer to the great systematizers, who have brought order where there was only chaos. The first K, for instance, is Ludwig K. He was an Austrian music-lover; more to the point, he was a botanist, and had the brilliant idea of applying the principles of taxonomy, which governed his own science, to the task of sorting out and classifying the works of Mozart, which had been left in hopeless confusion. The result was a mighty catalogue, and ever since, in printed references (such as concert programmes), the works of Mozart, are described by K-numbers, not by Op., meaning Opus, which—being an indication of the order of composition in the chronological sequence of the composer's music—is inappropriate for Mozart's, since it is impossible to be sure where many of his compositions come.

Köchel died in 1877; his catalogue has since been revised and re-edited thoroughly by Alfred Einstein (not to be confused with the scientist Albert, though he often is, as the hairy *mechuggench* was a knowledgeable music-lover and amateur

violinist), and it was inevitable that his pioneering work would sooner or later have to be followed in the case of the other great composers whose works remained at their deaths in disordered heaps rather than neat rows. The man who undertook the same labour for Schubert was Otto K. He was a German, and his catalogue was published in 1951, since when Schubert's works have been D-numbered when referred to in print. BWV stands for *Bach Werke Verzeichnis*, or *Bach Works Index*, the editor of which was Wolfgang Schmieder. He died in 1973 after sorting out the prodigious quantity of music left by Bach, much of which remained both unperformed and unpublished until long after the composer's death. And Hob stands for Anthony van Hoboken, who has done the same job for Haydn. The other K, Kobke, compiled the standard guide to the plots of operas: Lord Harewood, or H, undertook the last two revisions Kobke, and being a sensible man he left his predecessor's synopsis alone when they seemed

adequate, disingenuous between those he had taken over from the earlier editions and those he had contributed himself, by signing them K or H respectively. That leaves WoO, which I found attached to an early Octet movement by Beethoven, of all people, who has been safely Opp'd for a century and a half. "WoO" is what I was labelled, and I could not for the life of me guess what it meant, until Muller, with whom I had gone to the concert, declared that it must stand for "Work Order". Not that that (though I am sure Muller is right) explains anything. "WoO" is what I was labelled, and I could not for the life of me guess what it meant, until Muller, with whom I had gone to the concert, declared that it must stand for "Work Order". Not that that (though I am sure Muller is right) explains anything. "WoO" is what I was labelled, and I could not for the life of me guess what it meant, until Muller, with whom I had gone to the concert, declared that it must stand for "Work Order". 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1. *Chlorophyll a* (Chl *a*)

MR SADAT AT LUXEMBOURG

While the Middle East waits to see what the policies of the new Administration will be, President Sadat has been giving his views to the European Parliament in Luxembourg. In his speech yesterday he was careful not to disparage the Camp David process set in motion by President Carter, and the autonomy talks between Egypt and Israel, but he had remarkably warm words for the European initiative launched in Venice last June. He described last December's summit meeting, when decisions were taken on the next stage, as "a decisive factor that should have constructive impact on the peace process in the near future." The participants, he said, "had correctly identified the complex problems and adopted clear solutions."

Mr. Sadat is well aware that the Americans, not the Europeans, who are the decisive factor in the Middle East. But he also knows that the Camp David process, in which he has invested so much of his own prestige, at the cost of his relations with the rest of the Arab world, has made little progress so far, and he is bound to be apprehensive about what will emerge from the review now under way in Washington. He is particularly concerned about the "Jordanian option", by which Jordan would be brought into the

talks between Egypt and Israel. So he appears to have accepted the European view, put to him by Lord Carrington in Cairo last month, that the EEC's initiative is not intended to undermine the Camp David process, and can be seen as building on it.

So far, the European initiative has not amounted to much in practical terms. There was the series of visits to Middle East capitals last year by Mr. Gaston Thorn, then Foreign Minister of Luxembourg and President of the EEC Council of Ministers; it is to be followed by similar visits, starting later this month, by Mr. Christopher Van de Klauw, the Dutch Foreign Minister. Only after all these consultations had been completed will the Ten decide on any specific action, they might take. But in their Venice statement the Europeans set out certain principles—such as the need to recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, and the need to associate the Palestine Liberation Organization with peace negotiations—and the intention is to use these as a basis for working out a comprehensive settlement. Hence the hostility in Israel, which they see as a rival to the United States, and the suspicions of the Egyptians, who were afraid that they would undermine the achievements made so far.

It is rare for the Europeans to be invited to address the Parliament, and Sadat's appearance in Brussels is support in "mutual and recognition" between Israelis and Palestinians. It is very much in the terms of the Venice Declaration. He called for "additional guarantees" as a price for the peace offered in Venice beyond the Venice proposals, that in the national period, the "Palestinian people" should be recognized. The indication is that Mr. Sadat's initiative as a peace process, though without American sponsorship, rapprochement cannot expect from the P.L.O., appearance in the regard him as to Israel, or if one of the differences between the two groups, those differences, indication of that he attaches role.

the Foreign Office announces required to act automatically or

Foreign Office announces that Sir John Ford, the United Kingdom High Commissioner to Canada, is to return in the early summer nine months before he will have reached the age. It goes on at the very moment when Sir John's performance of his function has become a matter of sharp controversy in Canada, and it invites us to believe that the two are unconnected.

The High Commissioner has been accused of interfering in the internal political affairs of Canada because he has been complaining to Canadian MPs that the opportunity offers that he would make proposals for patriation and the amendment of the Canadian constitution which Ottawa intends to forward to London are likely to meet resistance in the Westminster Parliament, and so forth. It looks from this distance as if in doing that Sir John Ford has simply been doing his duty. But Canadian political services are exposed just now by an approaching constitutional crisis, and it has to be presumed that an announcement of the High Commissioner's withdrawal from the application of a little amendment.

By what everyone agrees is an anachronism the legislative power to amend the constitution of Canada, an indubitably sovereign state, rests with the Parliament of the United Kingdom. It acts on request from the Government and Parliament of Canada. The disputed question is whether it is required to act automatically or whether it has an independent duty to discharge as trustee in some sense of Canada's federal constitution. The federal government says the first, most of the provinces the second.

After examining the precedents the Foreign Affairs Committee recently came to the trusteeship conclusion. Its central finding was that

Where a requested amendment of patriation would directly affect the federal structure of Canada, and the opposition of Provincial governments and legislatures is officially represented to the United Kingdom Government or Parliament, the United Kingdom is bound to exercise its best judgment in deciding whether the request . . . conveys the clearly expressed wishes of Canada as a federally structured whole.

It is not called upon to examine the merits of any proposals, only the degree of federal consent to them.

This is furiously contested by Mr Trudeau's government. Its view was forcefully repeated by the Foreign Minister, Mr Mark MacGuigan, at the weekend. . . . constitutional precedents require the British Parliament to give effect to any request coming from the Canadian Parliament . . . there is no constitutional requirement requiring provincial consultation or consent. . . . Some may say the British Parliament clearly has the legal ability to pass or defeat a Canadian proposal. This may be true in the narrow, legal sense. But the Canadian Government—and, as I say, the British Govern-

ment—institutes the legal right to which can only be passing "a request from the . . .

Mr Trudeau's British Government embarrassment to the present position so widely opposed by the Minister of the Crown (and we may be House of Lords) in the matter at issue is becoming caused by a similar embarrassment to the reluctance to give the rubber stamp. It is if this intensifying were to bring about the normally expected between the nations and parliaments of the Commonwealth.

The best route to ground is via the which are Canadian to see if they can themselves and their government, on formula for the Mr Trudeau was his proposal to paged amended ment here would him the nod be question of fed raised by his p Rights would settled later when at Westminster Canada's own ins-

Indian antiquities

Mr. M. Ahmed

Perhaps you will extend to me the hospitality of your columns in giving voice to those of Mr. Mrs Cyril Tils (January 29) in urging to the attention of the many friends of India in this country the sad plight of most of India's ancient monuments and antiquities.

I have just come back from a tour of some of India's historic sites and I, too, have been shocked to find all too many of these monuments and old edifices in a state of decay affecting most of the including such, seminal

popular tourist attractions including the Taj and the temples of Khajuraho are well looked after but the outlook for the rest of India's priceless heritage of historic monuments seems to be bleak.

India, of all countries, is spending countless millions on armaments. A small fraction of that expenditure would ensure the preservation of the bulk of India's glorious heritage of ancient monuments. For example, surely it is not beyond the means of India to restore to its past splendour the vandalized inlay work of here !".

I realize that other priorities, but authorities there are no preservation of so should also have all poverty, the is the most pernicious the Yours faithfully, M. AHMED.

Thorne Lodge,
115 Thorne Road,
Doncaster.
South Yorkshire.
January 30.

perilous dispute over the five-day week could probably have been avoided if the regime had consulted in good faith with Solidarity instead of presenting it with a decision which looked like an attempt to retreat from the Gdansk agreement of last August. Solidarity felt betrayed and reacted accordingly. Its main concern was not the five-day week but recognition by the Government of its right to be consulted.

On the Government side the habit of centralized command dies hard but it will have to die because the Polish regime can no longer regain its authority by force, only by negotiation. Mr Kania appears to see this. Some of his colleagues do not. Mr Kania's position may now be strengthened by the appointment of Mr Jaruzelski, the Defence Minister, as Prime Minister. This is the first time a soldier has held this job, and the appointment could have a steadying influence. In the first place Mr Jaruzelski is regarded in Poland as a moderate who has strongly opposed the use of force against strikers. This credit will strengthen his authority. At the same time, even though he is probably regarded by the Russians as a shade too much of a Polish patriot, he must have close contact with their own military men.

This is important because the Soviet Union's interest in Poland is probably more military than ideological. It will tolerate heresies to a certain point but it would not tolerate a situation in which it could no longer regard Polish territory as a militarily secure sector of the Warsaw

Pact. With a Minister it may be on this point that Mr Kania's attitude about defending independence. Soldiers are growing impatient and possibly whether to intervene. They are likely to be a soldier with a gun, there would a possibility.

Nevertheless, getting on with it, nor go on any longer. The economy from had to be unionists, including students, and find their place uncertain of their own objectives and faith of the Gdansk agreement. It is partly implemented, hand-on, and made. The regime the outline of economic reforms in the re-structure management, with over broad structural planning but time as more acute necessity for the (Lugarsian model) has been influential.

It appears to aim appears to prizes work for to fulfill a certain are also promised for private sharp rise in import, Censorship, discussion, and there is no more implemented agreement. This have to be more Polish revolutionary tained and cons

Pact. With a soldier as Prime Minister it may find discussions on this point easier, in spite of Mr Kania's ambiguous remarks about defending Polish independence. Soldiers in Moscow have a growing influence on policy, and possibly a decisive say in whether to intervene in Poland. They are likely to treat a Polish soldier with more respect than they would a politician.

Nevertheless, time is clearly getting short. The country cannot go on improving much longer. The economy is sinking from bad to worse. The new unionists, including now farmers and students, are still jostling to find their place in the system, uncertain of the limits of their own objectives and of the good faith of the government. The Gdansk agreement is still only partially implemented, and the pace of progress is being made. The regime has produced the outline of a plan for economic reforms involving, it says, the re-structuring of economic management, with more powers over broad strategy for the central planning bodies at the same time as more autonomy and decentralisation for enterprise level. The Hungarian model seems to have been influential since the main aim appears to be to make enterprises work for profit rather than to fulfill a central plan. There are also promises of a new deal for private farmers, including a sharp rise in agricultural investment. Censorship is under active discussion, and in other respects the regime is saluting the Gdansk agreement. This progress will have to be maintained if the Polish revolution is to be contained and consolidated.

From Dr J. E. Thomas

Sir, in his judgment on the case, Lord Denning if (February 7) as saying of the Office documents which were centre of the case, that "It is the public interest that they be kept confidential. He would explore the 'wholly major' attraction of ministers and civilians - 'who were only doing very best to deal with a criminal'."

I was a witness in the W case which led to the action of Miss Harman, and I am but almost every conclusion of the judiciary throughout. The case was a punishment, and was devised for Williams or a master of urgent public concern, and it is absurd there say that the documented procedure of no public interest. The regime which was established could, indeed, still be in operation, not but for the concern of many sections of the community. This is why it was disconcerting as Lord Denning said, because "was found not to have been successful."

It is the most depressing of all of this litigation is Denning's, notably Lord Denning's to understand that the a plaintiff may have been "a criminal" at one time, but for the time under discussion, prisoners committed to the Prison Secretary, that he was entitled not to be harmed; that he was defenseless; that means dubious legal authority were against him; and that that did not happen in this country. Yours faithfully,

J. E. THOMAS,
Secretary of Nottingham
Department of Adult Education,
14-22 Shakespeare Street,
Nottingham.
February 9.

From Mr Ian Presti

your letter, in your leader on "The Dangers of Appearing Landscapes" (February 1977) you say that Sites of Special Scientific Interest cover one fifth of the country and that the Government will not allow any development in these areas. If this were so, one could well understand the worry expressed by the CLA, in a letter published in the same day, that some of the recommendations tabled to the Wildlife and Countryside Bill would be "incompatible with the needs and expectations of the farming community and unacceptable restrictions on agriculture".

In fact, they cover one twentieth of the land surface and nearly half of these are, for one reason or another, never likely to affect agriculture. The 2,000 sites, covering about 1 per cent of Great Britain, Agriculture or forestry destroy or seriously damage over a 100 of them every year.

The statutory description of the sites underlines their importance for research. They are also of great natural beauty and truly a part of our national heritage, reflecting the interaction of man and environment over, often, thousands of years.

The Wildlife and Countryside Bill, as passed by Parliament with an opportunity to take effective action to protect them in ways which would not be financially disadvantageous to farmers or other landowners, is a potential loss of agricultural productivity which cannot be regarded as significant.

Yours faithfully,
IAN PREST, Director,
The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds,
Weymouth, Dorsetshire.

February 4

from Lieutenant-Colonel. Phil

Worrall Surely an official history of the SOE (Special Operations Executive) would interest which for one reason or another now remains hidden. Those writing books privately these days are reluctant to rely extensively upon their fellow authors, which often means they tell the same old stories over and over again. I have been questioned about what, as a young member of the SOE, I was doing in the Pindus from September, 1943, until December 1944.

Parachuted in as a saboteur, my office the day after the Italian capitulation. I found myself assigned to Colonel Woodhouse as liaison man between his force of 7,000 who overcame the mountains, clashing—and getting killed—between them and the Germans. Yes, Philip; there's no one else.

Very soon I became their only Englishman among the Greeks had ordered them, disarmed them and sent them back to work in the mines and fields. We were chased by the Germans; and imprisoned by ELAS during the hard winter of 1943-44 reduced them to starving frostbitten rabbits which nearly 1,000 did not survive.

Fifteen months later—and having personally spent 33,000 sovereigns—myself and 600 had to buy our way out of Greece. The vast majority of the Germans—the remainder and left Volos in troopships only bound to leave before the ELAS expedition to the north could finish their trip.

In addition SOE took over responsibility for a variety of characteristically British shoo-down United States troops, two groups of Russians and many others who did not belong in Greece.

Yes, Sir.

Philip Worrall, author of *The Philby Affair*, *My Secret War*, *My Secret War*, *My Secret War*.

com Mrs H. C. Hulston

Mr. Is Mr Ambrose Appelbe (letter
February 5) not aware that a bod
pled to medical research will often
refused, in order to save trans
port expenses, unless death occur
most on the doorstep of a teaching
hospital?
Yours faithfully,
ELEN HULTON,
Gloucester Crescent NW1.

Exam No M D E Foster

From Mr M. D. E. Foster
Sir, I see that the fishermen are taking industrial action because of their concern over cheap fish imports.

What is of equal concern, it seems to me, is where these cheap imports are going to. They are certainly not finding their way to my local fish shop.

Yours faithfully,
M. D. E. FOSTER,
White Lodge,
St Edmund's Lane,
Evesham,
Suffolk.
February 5.

From Sir Ronald Bell, QC, MP for Beaconsfield (Conservative)

Sir, The heading of your leading article and the substance of it of "bad bargain" raised hopes not quite sustained by what came under it. Your analysis of the fisheries situation was accurate and again the doubts do indeed appear to be that very bad bargain made by Mr Heath's government, with the connivance and encouragement of those Liberals and Labour who doubtless do indeed propose now to combine for our general salvation.

You did not mention the ministerial assurances given in 1972 and 1973 about the post-transition future, and the occurrence of a leading implication of some vague (and, of course, entirely inapplicable) British veto, nor the continual assertions that such matters were to be sorted out by the new member. Your leading article shows clearly that this particular problem at least would be easily and advantageously solved from outside the Community and is from inside virtually insoluble.

But the meaning of your opening

From the Reverend

Sir, As our fishing industry itself threatened extinction and dumped fish parts were being accused, I came to a concluding paragraph "Herring Fishermen in James Logan Island at Home" dated 1848:

"It is matter of the Dutch should so near the coast, the fluctuating trade would indicate a lament of the Government of the which regulate the different countries and several of this matter overdue.

Yours faithfully,
J. HAMILTON,
St Andrew's Manse,
West Lothian,
February 5.

From Mr W. F. Morgan

Sir, I entirely agree with sentiments expressed by Mr R. Wright (February 1).

In the current situation the "main leaders" should have shown themselves to be such to the country and their "rank and file" by immediately offering to accept the 6 per cent, whilst using their efforts more wisely in negotiating a possible reduction of the working week and/or holidays.

I, too, and many of my colleagues would not like to take strike action.

Yours faithfully,
W. F. MORGAN,
9 Teviot Road,
Kestonham,
Bristol.

February 5.

From the General Secretary of the Inland Revenue Staff Federation
 Sir, There is a huge temptation to Mr Wright's letter of 12 February (4) as pure sanctimony and to ignore it. But I'll take him seriously and seek his response to the things which I believe are worrying civil servants.
 Will he first tell us just what the connexion is between Civil Service pay and unemployment? To the extent that fewer civil servants adds to unemployment the die is already cast: the Prime Minister has decreed a 100,000 cut in the Civil Service before the leaves office; 30,000 have already gone.
 Security again is an emotive distraction from the real issue. Yes, a Civil Service job is secure; so is

TONY CHRISTOPHER
 General Secretary
 Inland Revenue Staff
 7 St George's Square
 February 4.

From Mr J. B. Sloane
 Sir, If a Civil Servant the collection of revenue, would it offset, as far as revenue by means of salaries of men until the last revenue, etc.
 Yours, etc.
 J. B. SLOANE,
 Wyndford,
 Little Gaddesden,
 Hertfordshire.
 February 6.

From Mr L. H. Leigh

Sir, I write as a Canadian to express disquiet over the turn which the constitutional controversy is taking. In particular, it seems to me that the Government of Canada is exacerbating the controversy for reasons which are obviously political.

The charge of colonialism levelled against the United Kingdom Government is an absurdity. There has, so far as I know, been no statement by the responsible United Kingdom Ministers to the effect that they intend to introduce Canadian proposals for legislation into Parliament.

By the same token the United Kingdom Government would be failing in its duties of friendship if it did not point out to Canadian Ministers that the introduction of a substantial degree of opposition to Mr. Trudeau's measures on the part of the British Members of Parliament. The Government may introduce legislation but it cannot give absolute assurance that the Government of Canada will not seek to wreck it, nor, surely, can it be expected to sacrifice its legislative programme for the sake of such a measure.

The report of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Committee on the subject is an advisory to the House which it may or may not take. It is certainly a document around which opposition may gather. The Government would hardly preclude the Committee from considering a matter within its terms of reference. The Committee itself recognized the importance of the subject and the consideration of matters of Canadian democracy; it came to its conclusions on an examination of the precedents and that examination was

from Mr Derek Parker

Why am I invited to subscribe to a fund to rescue *The London Magazine* when the Arts Council literature panel, which I support, is actually under-allocating its budget last year? If the Arts Council does not exist, among other reasons, to keep one of the best English literary magazines alive, then why does it exist?

—**DEREK PARKER**,
Camden Hill Towers, W11,
February 6.

from Miss Pearl Binder
 Mr. One of the greatest joys of
 my life (and of hundreds and
 thousands of others) has been atten-
 ding the Open Air Theatre in
 Green's Park—first as a young

From Mr R. N. Lines

Sir, May I, as a loyal Englishman say to Mr Ian Paisley that the surest way to make those living in the mainland want to cast Uddrifi is for him to continue to intrude upon them his noisy, tactical, seemingly hate-ridden covity towards the majority of fellow Irishmen.

Yours truly,

NICHOLAS LINES,
21a Chénies Avenue,
Amsersham,
Buckinghamshire.

From Mr D. W. Mitchell

Sir, Some time ago you published a letter from an old man praising a small bouquet—instantaneous memory—brickbat from the National Health Service, recounting the excellent treatment he received from the staff of London hospital.

The same old man has just written a lovely, another NHS hospital, Hertfordshire this time, when again has nothing but praise for the sympathetic manner in which he was received and cared for. He is now in another hospital, nursing duties with easeful consideration but did little errand; a very more mobile patient, great willingness—with a good would not be putting it too high for the public service, on a cold our gas boiler went out and refused to be re-lit. A telephone message to the Eastern Gas Board received courtesy, brisk note-taking and a very good service. A technician within half an hour, while we still wondering how soon it was "immediate", a technician arrived fitted a replacement for a defective part and in minutes had the boiler re-lit; and it has been working perfectly ever since.

Trivial incidents, one may think but not to the recipient. And we are a comfort to all of us, especially the aged and infirm, that the public giants can bring into contact which act quickly sympathetically to a call for help. Yours faithfully,
D. W. MITCHELL,
53 Exbury Road,
Barnet, London,
Middlesex.
February 6.

From Mr D. E. Hadley . . .

Sir, The suicide in a Cuban pr
of the Englishman, Mr Terry C
which you report in today's **Ti**
(February 3), is the most awa
tragedy and one which reflects u
of our foreign legation in Havana
Mr Child's plight was
reported some months ago o
"Today" programme. My wife
were so moved by the desper
situation of this man who was
behind in prison in a state of
depressing despair when the o
personnel of the Foreign Office
released, and one of whom test
to the inadequate help which
Child was even then receiving fr
our embassy, that we wrote to
presenters of the "Today" p
programme asking them to do all
possible to induce the Foreign Of
to take the necessary measure
to secure Mr Child's release.
As far as we know nothing was do
The public is entitled to
an explanation from the Foreign Of
as to what measures, if any, it r
to take for Mr Child, not least of
because, businesslike men like
who visit Cuba from this coun
would now like some assurance o
the assistance of our diplom
whose salaries we pay through
taxes, will be speedily and er
to give it if they find the
selves in trouble in that country.
Yours faithfully,
D. BERNARD HADLEY,
White Hall House,
Upham,
Hampshire.

From the Chairman of the Nation

deration of Women's Institutes
Sir, I read with interest Mrs Ber
Bradby's letter (February 3)
which mentioned the crucial
part played by women in the
production and processing of food
in the Third World.
Women also have a fundamental
role to play in the collecting and
distribution of water—some spend
as long as four hours a day on it
and so are susceptible to disease
and disease-causing bacteria. Contaminated
water causes sickness and loss of
productivity which acts as a drain
on the life of the nation. Many
of the poorest of life live in rural
areas.
In 1980 the NFWI submitted
a resolution to the triennial con-
ference of the Associated
Women of the World supporting the
United Nations Decade for Inter-
national Water Supply and Sanitation.
We are fortunate to have a
water supply in most homes in this
country, and should, as members
of the public, give much hearted
support to the Nations campaign
for water.
Yours sincerely,
PATRICIA BATTY SHAW, Chair-
man,
National Federation of Women's
Institutes,
19 Eccleston Street,
Victoria, SW1.

From Mr. Oliver Weaver.

Subsection (1) of section 53 of the new Companies Bill provides that the registrar of companies may destroy any document or other material which he has kept for over 10 years . . .

Subsection (2) provides: "The registrar shall retain a copy of any document or other material destroyed in pursuance of subsection (1)." . . .

Section 22(3) contains a further essential addition to statute law where it states that: "and 'and' and 's' shall be taken as the same words faithfully,

OLIVER WEAVER,
4 Old Buildings,
Iron Lane, London E.C.2.

THE SCOTCH OF A LIFETIME
The Buchanan Blend

Stock markets

FT Ind 485.3 up 4.6
FT 69.06 down 0.11

Sterling

\$2.3370 down 35 points
Index 101.2 up 0.1

Dollar

Doll 99.4 up 0.3
DM 2.1507 up 135 pts

Gold

\$514.50 down \$2

Money

3-mth sterling 13 1/4-13 1/2
3-mth Euro \$ 17 1/2-16 1/2
6-mth Euro \$ 17 1/2-16 1/2

More jobs lost in North West

Manufacturing industry in the north west of England received a further employment blow yesterday when the American-owned Ingersoll Rand company said it would close its plant at Trafford Park, Manchester, in July with the loss of 450 jobs. The plant makes air compressors and associated equipment.

The company, which said it hoped to find alternative jobs for about 100 of the workers at other group factories at Wythenshawe, Manchester and at Hindley Green, Wigan, blamed the closure on a drop in demand for products, the strength of sterling and a general increase in production costs.

The Trafford Park factory stands on a road that forms a boundary line of one of the Government's new enterprise zones, but it is on the wrong side of the line and would, therefore, not qualify for any of the rate exemptions and other benefits that will apply within the zone.

Accountants criticize bad debts plan

Accountants are criticizing the Bank of England's proposal to include banks' general provisions against bad debts as a reserve for the purpose of securing capital adequacy.

The Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies has written to the Bank saying that its proposal is contrary to the Companies Act 1948 and in conflict with best accounting practice.

Iceland to devalue

The Central Bank of Iceland has decided to devalue the Icelandic krona by 3.65 per cent. The new rate of exchange will be announced later today. The devaluation is not yet official, but Mr Thomas Arnason, commerce minister, said in a radio interview that the reason for the move was the recent rise of the dollar.

Ecuador loan

Ecuador has asked Chase Manhattan Bank to arrange syndication of a \$160m loan. Chase is understood to have won the mandate in competition with Bank of America, Manufacturers Hanover Trust, Bank of Tokyo, Citibank and J. P. Morgan.

Whisky compensation

Whisky distillers could get nearly £90m compensation within the next 12 months—subject to budget allocations—through payments from the European Community for differential pricing on malted barley between EEC and world prices.

Car imports monitor

Japanese vehicle manufacturers are to provide the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders with monthly details of cars they have shipped to Britain in a move to help reduce trade frictions.

\$53m for Air France

France is to guarantee \$53m (£22.6m) of loans being arranged by the state-run airline Air France with the United States Export-Import Bank.

Wall Street higher

The Dow Jones industrial average closed at 948.63, up 1.45 on Wall Street yesterday. The S&P 500 index was 128.34 while the £-SDR was 0.52923.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

ANZ Grp	9p to 22sp
Broken Hill	25p to 71sp
Cons Gold Fields	3p to 45p
Nat W miner	10p to 37sp
Peko Walsend	15p to 130p

Falls

As Fisheries	6p to 54p
Larso	10p to 65p
Lyndenbury Plat	5p to 142p
Man Ship Canal	43p to 57p
Wm Ship Canal	15p to 173p

THE POUND

	Bank	Bank
	buys	sells
Australia \$	2.07	1.99
Austria Sch	35.35	34.75
Belgium Fr	83.50	79.50
Canada \$	2.85	2.75
Denmark Kr	15.35	15.15
Finland Mk	9.88	9.38
France Fr	11.88	11.38
Germany DM	5.19	4.95
Greece Dr	119.90	113.00
Hong Kong \$	12.70	12.10
Ireland P	1.39	1.33
Italy Lit	2495.00	2385.00

Increase in spending over 10 months outstrips forecast for full year

By John Whitmore
Financial Correspondent

The Government produced a mixed bag of financial indicators yesterday. Monetary growth in the January banking month was contained to an estimated 0.75 per cent, but central government expenditure during January continued to rise sharply.

Although central Government returned a large surplus of £1,714m for the month, the size of the surplus was well down on January 1980, and consolidated fund expenditure was up by no less than 29 per cent.

The size and bunching of additional payments to local authorities (under the local authority increase orders) has undoubtedly exaggerated the rate of increase in January, and there is little sign of a deceleration in the growth of spending that the Government has been hoping for towards the end of the present financial year.

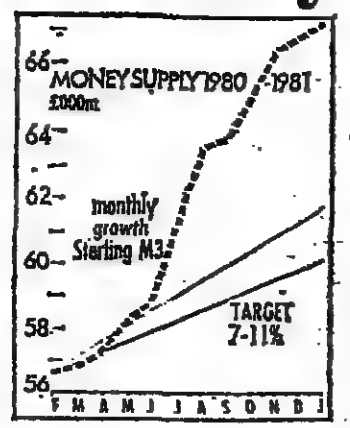
For the first 10 months of the year, consolidated fund expenditure is 24 per cent higher than in the comparable period last year. This compares with last year's Budget forecast of a rise of 20 per cent over the year as a whole.

But spending is not the only area of concern. The Government cannot take a great deal of comfort from the January revenue figures either.

Although revenue for the first 10 months of the year is only 11.1 per cent ahead of forecast, the Government's full year target of 20 per cent growth—there was a marked slowdown in the growth of receipts during January.

Overall receipts were up by 11.1 per cent, and £500m of a total £1,166m increase in receipts was attributable to miscellaneous receipts, including a tranche under the EEC Budget rebate agreement. Inland Revenue receipts for the month rose by just over 9 per cent, and customs and excise receipts were up by only 6 1/2 per cent.

To what extent these receipts may have been affected by late payments of tax is not clear.



But it does seem certain that customs and excise receipts are going to fall short of the one-third increase that had been expected over the financial year as a whole.

Overall, the central government borrowing requirement for the first 10 months of the year stands at £11,381m, more than £3,600m higher than at the same point last year.

Although the Government still has substantial petroleum revenue tax payments to come, as well as further proceeds from asset sales, it has already made it clear that the full public sector borrowing requirement this year is going to be some way ahead of its revised November estimate.

The November figure had raised the original spring projection from £8,500m to £11,500m. But last month Mr Nigel Lawson, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, confirmed that even that figure was likely to prove on the low side. Many City estimates project the full year outturn as likely to be between £12,500m and £13,500m.

In spite of this, there was some encouragement for the Government yesterday on the revenue in private sector companies. Although clearing bank figures for the six weeks to January 21 record an increase of £2,000m in lending to the private sector, some two-thirds of that reflected seasonal influences, particularly the crediting and debiting of year-end interest payments.

The banks estimate that around half the remaining figure may have been accounted for by interest rate arbitrage on "make up" day, leaving an underlying increase of some £300m, much in line with the slower rate of growth in private sector credit demand seen before Christmas.

Even though the public sector probably had a small expansionary influence on domestic credit on a seasonally adjusted basis, overall domestic credit expansion may have been relatively modest. External finance may have had a small contractionary influence, leaving sterling M3 growth of about £500m, or 0.75 per cent.

Although this leaves the annualized rate of growth since last February, the base for the present target period, at 21 per cent, and the underlying rate of growth over the period at an estimated 18 per cent, the annualized rate of growth over the past three months has dropped back to 14 per cent.

The authorities will be looking for further deceleration before the end of the financial year, though they will see only the February figures before the Chancellor's Budget speech on March 10.

Financial markets are now largely resigned to the likelihood that a reduction in M1R will probably be held back for the Budget speech itself. There is unlikely to be any rush to buy the new £1,000m gilt edged offer that goes on sale today.

Clearing bank figures for the month include an increase in foreign currency deposits of £1,800m, reflecting part of the Iranian funds which were deposited at the Bank of England as part of the hostage release package. It is not clear whether the Iranians have maintained those deposits or withdrawn them.

Financial Editor, page 19
Tables, page 20

Fraser board opens takeover defence

By Philip Robinson

The 14 House of Fraser directors conducting the defence against Lomho's £158m takeover bid yesterday described to shareholders how Sir Hugh Fraser's reconciliation with Mr Rowland "Tim" Rowland, chairman of Lomho, was the final straw which meant Sir Hugh had to go.

In the first formal statement since the offer designed to give a "straightforward account of the main developments" which led to Sir Hugh's removal from the chair of Britain's largest stores group three weeks ago, they say: "We believe this latest alliance in the on-off Rowland-Fraser saga to be against the interests of our independent shareholders and employees, and we deeply regret it."

"It was this final loss of confidence in his (Sir Hugh's) ability to appreciate the true interests of shareholders and employees that led 12 of your directors at a board meeting on Wednesday, January 28, to vote in favour of a resolution to ask Sir Hugh to resign."

But yesterday's letter brought sharp reaction from Sir Hugh and further statements of clarification from the Fraser board and from Lomho.

Sir Hugh said: "What they have not mentioned is that Simon Garmoye (Lord Garmoye, of House of Fraser's merchant banker advisers S. G. Warburg) suggested I should resign as chairman two days before the meeting with Mr Rowland."

"And why should I meet Mr Rowland? I had a lot of shareholders' calls after the extraordinary shareholders' meeting saying this should be sorted out. Mr Rowland is a shareholder and I would speak to any shareholder who wants a meeting, whether he has 10 or a million shares."

Mr Ernest Sharp, House of Fraser deputy chairman, said: "How could we have mentioned this in the letter to shareholders? We don't know what took place in that private meeting between Sir Hugh and Lord Garmoye."

After reading the House of Fraser letter, Lomho issued a statement saying that a move to make current part-time Fraser chairman Professor Roland Smith an executive chairman was defeated by 11 votes to four during the same meeting which ousted Sir Hugh.

House of Fraser immediately retorted that this was part of a resolution which would have restored Sir Hugh as non-executive chairman with Professor Smith

as executive chairman. The move, suggested after Professor Smith had been voted chairman, was defeated.

A number of Fraser directors pleaded with Sir Hugh to accept the post of president of House of Fraser, but he refused.

Meanwhile, Lomho's formal offer document is expected out in two to five days. Lomho yesterday notes that House of Fraser shareholders who do not wish to take the 150p cash the chance to opt for the equivalent nominal amount of 12 per cent unsecured loan stock 1981/84. Lomho shareholders will meet to approve the bid on March 4.

The Fraser board's defence document is likely to be out before then. A major part of that will include the long-awaited property revaluation likely to show assets of 307p a share and valuing Harrods at £114.4m.

The Fraser directors advise shareholders to take no action in the meantime. "Shareholders will only benefit from the value of these property assets and the continuing improvement and development of our retailing activities if we fight off this unwelcome and opportunist bid from Lomho."

Compromise talks start on Bill for self-regulation at Lloyd's

By Richard Allen
Insurance Correspondent

Crucial talks on the controversial Bill for improving self-regulation at Lloyd's, the London insurance market, are scheduled to take place at the House of Commons tomorrow evening.

Sir Graham Page, MP for Crosby, who is attempting to steer the Bill through Parliament, is expected to announce, including Lady Middleton, head of the recently formed Association of External Members of Lloyd's, and a group of Conservative MPs in an effort to hammer out a compromise.

Having withdrawn the Bill in the face of parliamentary opposition during its second reading last month, the Lloyd's committee has made major changes. However, although the committee is understood to regard this as its "ultimate compromise", the alterations are unlikely to satisfy sterner critics. These include Mr Nick Parker and Mr John Burrows,



Sir Graham Page: to meet critics.
two underwriting "names" at Lloyd's, who petitioned against the Bill in its original form.

In a compromise move Lloyd's has removed from the main Bill the controversial Clause 11, which would have the effect of giving a new ruling council blanket immunity against the possibility of legal action. It has also accepted changes in the composition of the proposed council to increase the number of non-working members represented from six to eight.

But the existing committee is apparently still resisting pressure for specific provisions to be included in the Bill safeguarding members of the Society of Lloyd's from fraud or for provisions requiring Lloyd's brokers to divest themselves of their underwriting interests.

These could prove stumbling blocks at tomorrow night's meeting especially as many opponents of the Bill see the divestment issue as crucial to Lloyd's future. Some Conservative MPs have threatened to "talk-out" the Bill during the current session unless adequate compromises are reached.

Aerospace traded options stalled

By Catherine Gann

Hopes of a traded option class in British Aerospace shares to coincide with the group's listing on the Stock Exchange were dashed yesterday when the commissions, dealings and options committee, chaired by Mr Peter Stevens of Laurie, Millbank, decided against their immediate introduction.

The decision was badly received in the traded options market, with dealers claiming that the three brokers to the £150m issue, Hoare, Govett, Cazenove and W. Greenwell had put pressure on the committee not to complicate the sensitive

launch of British Aerospace with traded options.

No comment was available from the three firms last night. But the committee claims it took no account of any external pressures in reaching its decision. It prefers to see how the market develops in British Aerospace shares before giving approval for option trading in the stock, and will be reviewing the matter.

A wide spread of shares and a good market are the usual requirements for introducing a class of traded options in a company's stock, together with an established dividend record.

In the special case of British Aerospace, it seems the absence of the latter would be overlooked by the committee.

While a spokesman from Hoare Govett's corporate finance department said yesterday that traded options might be among the variables that can affect stock prices, Mr David Steen of stockbroker Pinchin Denny disputed the point.

"There's nothing sinister about traded options—we've had a clean record for three years. No one has ever suggested that they have a particular effect on the underlying prices of stock," Mr Steen said.

Grand Met directors' £275,000 handshake

By Rosemary Unsworth

Former directors of Grand Metropolitan, the brewing to hotels group, have received a total of £275,000 in compensation and ex gratia payments.

The figures were revealed in the group's 1980 annual report which said that three directors had resigned last year. The three are Mr Ernest Sharp, former joint managing director who resigned on March 21, Mr Geoffrey Palmer, former deputy chairman of International Distillers and Vintners, and Mr Derek Taylor, executive director of Grand Metropolitan Hotels. The last two resigned on June 9.

Mr Sharp, who is non-executive deputy chairman of House of Fraser, said yesterday that he was not conceding that he had received any payment from Grand Met which also last year proposed to pay Mr Nicholas Coral, chairman of the gaming group, a £300,000 golden handshake if Grand Met's £37m agreed bid for Coral Leisure went through.

The decision by the Department of Trade to refer the bid to the Monopolies Commission resulted in Grand Met's withdrawal.

Sir Maxwell Joseph, the group chairman, commented that although the group now had a much broader geographical spread of activities it was still dependent to a material extent on the health of the United Kingdom economy. "The country is still passing through a painful period of recession and adjustment and domestic trading conditions continue to be difficult." But he said he was optimistic that the eventual return to a healthy and more prosperous environment would begin in 1981.

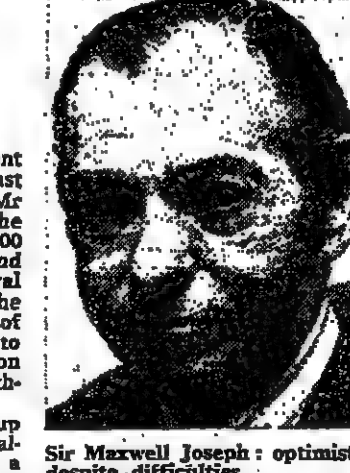
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The amount of access and hospitality granted to the EEC team clearly indicates the seriousness with which the administration is taking European concerns.



Sir Maxwell Joseph: optimistic despite difficulties.

Italy settles dispute over Sony TV sets

By Derek Harris

Intervention by the Department of Trade has settled an argument between Sony Corporation, the Japanese electronics company, and Italian customs over a consignment of television sets for the Italian market, and in Sony's South Wales factory.

The Italians had banned distribution of 1,400 colour televisions on the grounds that the sets did not contain at least 45 per cent components made within the European Community.

It was feared that the Italians were about to squeeze out imports of Japanese television sets assembled in Britain.

Sony claimed that the sets contained more than 50 per cent of EEC-sourced components. The company expects to sell around 16,500 colour sets in Italy this year.

When a tube factory, now under construction, Sony's plant at Bridgend, Glamorgan, comes on stream at the end of the year, the proportion of EEC components in their sets will rise to about 75 per cent, it is claimed.

Sony expects its world sales to rise by 15 per cent in the year to October 31, Mr Akio Morita, chairman and chief executive, said in London yesterday. This compares with last year's 39 per cent increase, although that followed a difficult previous year.

This year, although sales have been difficult, with United States business particularly showing a slowdown, he said. But Sony was planning production to increase this year, including 1.5 million videotape recorders (an increase of more than 40 per cent) and 2.7 million colour television sets (an increase of 300,000).

Aid talks 'disappointing'

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

The Institute of Directors was disappointed by the outcome of its meeting with Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry yesterday.

Discussing the Institute's 18-point set of proposals to help industrial regeneration, Mr Walter Goldsmith the Institute's director general, criticised subsidies to rescue state-owned industries, such as BL, but is believed to have been told that there was no alternative.

The directors presented their submissions to Sir Keith rather than to the Chancellor because they believe the Department of Industry should play a larger part in lobbying the Treasury on industry's behalf.

In particular, they want the Government to "dissuade nationalised industries and local authorities from discriminatory pricing and taxation policies". It is also thought that they made little progress on proposals to help people becoming self-employed.

Cash aids to smooth the way for more automated industry Robots to go on the Government payroll

Automate or stagnate is the enthusiastic call on the lips of robot users in Britain. That call has now been endorsed by the Government in its decision to assist the introduction of more robots in industry by paying 25 per cent of the cost of new processes that adopt robots as prime constituents.

There are now 371 robots working in British industry, making the United Kingdom sixth in the world's robot league measured against Japan (5,000), the United States (3,500), Sweden (1,200), Germany (1,133) and Italy (400).

These facts are a result of a survey published yesterday by the British Robot Association which has more than 250 members. The survey found that only 19 per cent of robot devices in Britain are home-manufactured; the remainder were imported from Europe, the United States and Japan.

About £1.3m a year is being allocated by the Government for the advancement of robots in all areas of research, application, awareness and manufacture.



Industrial welding in the hands of a robot.

This figure will rise to about £2.7m by 1984. The allocation will be reviewed if demand shows that more funds are warranted.

This year 20 per cent more robots are expected to be in use by British industry. The funding programme is provided through the Product and Process Development

Scheme and from funds administered by the Mechanical Engineering and Machine Tools Requirement Board.

Apart from offering funding for new processes the Government is also prepared to encourage robot manufacture. There are only about four manufacturers in Britain with Unimation and Hall Auto-

mation the most active at present.

The Government will advance 25 per cent of the cost of developing a new robot. The device will be bought by the Department of Industry and placed with a manufacturer for trial.

If the trial is successful the manufacturer can buy the device at a concessionary rate, but if the experiment fails the robot can be returned to the manufacturer after refunding the purchase price to the Department of Industry, with an adjustment for depreciation.

Heavy engineering has been prominent in its application of robots where they have taken over often unattractive jobs such as arc welding and injection moulding.

Among the country's leading robot users are BL, Ford, Lansing Bagnall, ICI and British Aerospace. They will be among a number of users offering their experience to British management during a special conference at the Brighton Metropole Conference Centre in May.

Bill Johnstone

US officials in trade talks with Europeans

From Frank Vogl
US Economics Correspondent

Washington, Feb 10.—EEC officials today bluntly outlined European trade concerns to the Reagan Administration.

But they relieved American anxieties that a secret deal on car imports between the EEC and Japan could lead to increased Japanese car exports to the United States.

Sir Roy Denman, Director General for External Affairs at the Brussels Commission, who was recently in Japan, assured Mr William Brock, the United States trade ambassador, that no secret negotiations have taken place to secure pledges from Japan to reduce car exports to Europe. There was, however, agreement to discuss car import policies.

American sources said there would be no attempt by the United States and the EEC to coordinate separate talks on car imports with the Japanese. "We are not about to start ganging-up on the Japanese," said a senior United States official.

Sir Roy and eight other EEC officials held extensive talks with Mr Brock and his staff. The European Commission said the Reagan Administration has yet to formulate any firm foreign trade policies, and that the Americans are willing to listen carefully to European opinions.

Sir Roy "made the point that things are tough in the Community, especially in the United Kingdom, in the petrochemical industry in general, and in the fibres area in particular," said an American official, who added: "We listened with sympathy to their views."

The purpose of the talks was for the Europeans to map out their trade positions to the Americans before firm policy decisions had been taken here, with the hope that the European views will be influential in formulating United States policy. By American accounts, this aspect of the mission was a success.

At the same time, as one American official said: "The Europeans came to find out what they could find out about our positions and we were not able to be very helpful." Sir Roy urged Washington to move ahead with domestic natural gas price deregulation; but all he could win was the comment that this issue was being considered.

The amount of access and hospitality granted to the EEC team clearly indicates the seriousness with which the administration is taking European concerns.

THE COMMERCIAL BANKING COMPANY OF SYDNEY LIMITED HALF YEARLY REPORT AND DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENT

The C.B.C. Group announces consolidated operating profit for the half year ending 31st December 1980 before tax of A\$33.83 Million (unaudited) compared with A\$29.98 Million in the corresponding period last year. After deducting income tax of A\$14.74 Million (1979 A\$13.06 Million) and minority interests the consolidated net profit increased by 12.6% to A\$18.57 Million (1979 A\$16.49 Million).

For the Banking Group, operating profit before tax was A\$29.15 Million (1979 A\$26.47 Million). After providing A\$12.44 Million (1979 A\$11.43 Million) for income tax the net operating profit increased by 11.3% to A\$16.74 Million (1979 A\$15.04 Million). The CAGA Group achieved a further profit improvement during the half year. The result before tax was a net profit of A\$6.55 Million (1979 A\$3.48 Million). After providing A\$2.30 Million for income tax (1979 A\$1.83 Million) the net operating profit increased by 26.8% to A\$2.35 Million (1979 A\$1.85 Million). C.B.C.'s share of the net operating profit was A\$1.83 Million (1979 A\$1.44 Million).

As previously announced C.B.C. purchased from Bank of America its 22.1% interest in CAGA on 31st December, 1980 and the full profit of CAGA will accrue to the C.B.C. Group in future half years.

The Board is pleased to declare an increased interim dividend of 11 cents per share (1979 interim 9 cents) in respect of the half year ending 31st December 1980 on the issued ordinary capital of the Bank.

The dividend is payable on the 6th March, 1981. Completed transfers received by the Company up to 5.00 p.m. on Friday, 20th February, 1981 will be registered before entitlements to the dividend are determined. Dividend warrants will be posted to Shareholders as soon as possible after 6th March, 1981.

By Order of the Chief Board, J. H. Seymour, Chief Manager, U.K. & Europe, 9th February, 1981.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Progressing slowly

Yesterday's preliminary indication from the Bank of England that the money supply may have risen by about 0.75 per cent in January seemed reasonable in the financial markets—though clearly not good enough either to revive hopes of a pre-Budget cut in M.R.R. or to persuade investors that there is any hurry to take up the £1,000m of short-dated government stock on offer this morning.

Precisely what the latest month's figures really mean, perhaps open to question anyway given the particular complexities of the seasonal adjustment in January. But there is at least no reason to assume other than that the underlying trend continues to improve, albeit slowly. For the latest three months, for instance, the annual rate of growth in sterling M3 has fallen to around 14 per cent compared with 24 per cent in the previous three months.

But if markets find comfort in this, and are prepared to let some of the worst horrors of last year slip gradually out of memory, there is not a great deal of comfort to be had in the latest figures for central government finances.

Far from slowing down in January, government spending accelerated. Consolidated Fund expenditure as a whole was 29 per cent up on January 1980 while supply service expenditure, the major item within this total, was up no less than 32 per cent.

To some extent these figures have been swollen by the size and bunching of the local authority increase in orders this year (£1,700m over two and a half months, compared with an additional £640m over four months last year).

But even making some allowance for this does not improve the spending side of the picture enormously. Meanwhile, revenue has only held up thanks to large miscellaneous receipts: mainstream tax receipts were far from buoyant in January and all the items that customs and excise receipts will not now make the one third increase that had originally been forecast for the year as a whole.

Guinness Peat Up against a high standard

After last year's good fortune in the commodity markets Guinness Peat was obviously going to be hard pressed to prevent profits from falling. But the first half figures of £5.5m pretax against £6.22m on sales down 7.5m to £287m were nevertheless worse than expected, and a sharp recovery, which looks improbable at this stage is now needed to prevent full year profits from halving around £6m.

In the United Kingdom, trading profit was over £1.45m, trading profit last time round, with losses in the manufacturing, chemicals, refining and distribution activities responsible. Efforts to cut costs in refining operations were stymied by a fall in demand. Profits from Lifaod, in which Guinness holds 20 per cent, were also down.

balance, however, these operations could break even over the whole year. Overseas results were all noticeably better, with money making a major contributor. Part of the stake in Singapore Land counted for most of the £899,000 earned outside North and Central America and western Europe, though some of the gilt is knocked off the gingerbread, however, the strong pound which cost perhaps £m on translation.

Half-time profits include about £150,000.

from the sale of 12 per cent in Esperanza, an item which could be repeated in the second half given the company's declared policy of selling low yielding assets. But the pokers in the pack are commodities, and the bank, Guinness Mahon, which is not included in these figures.

Last year commodities contributed about 57 per cent of the £22.9m trading profits. The equivalent figure for the first half this year would be around £4.7m. Given the downturn in markets generally, the quieter times especially in sugar which was so important to the group last year, it will be lucky to maintain this percentage in the second half. But the bank, whose disclosed profits last year were £1.8m, may do better, partly offsetting a decline in commodities' contribution.

With the interim dividend held at 3.93 gross, and chance that the final will also be held at 6.07 gross, last night's price of 113p, down 11p, the shares are on a prospective yield of 8.8 per cent.

Donald Macpherson A short-earned dividend

In spite of the fall in pretax profits from £4.5m to £2.3m last year and a much sharper drop in earnings from 21.4p to 2.7p a share, Donald Macpherson has decided to pay a maintained but short-earned dividend.

The balance sheet is strong. Helped by stock reductions borrowings were unchanged and are only about a fifth of shareholders' funds, and the fall in attributable profits was partly due to an exceptionally high tax charge of £1.8m.

Macpherson just missed out on the new stock relief rules, which would have treated it much more generously and left the dividend covered, while under the old rules it has been caught out by stock relief claw-back because of the stock reductions.

However, the decision to hold the dividend does not seem to be based on any great optimism about the current year. Last year's drop in profits was spread throughout the group with the exception of overseas companies which were only slightly down in local currency terms.

In the United Kingdom, stockholding by major customers such as Woolworth on the paint side, finally eased off but volumes remained depressed and there has been little sign of recovery yet.

Indeed, about half the group is now working a four-day week and DIY seems to be the one area where Macpherson hopes for some improvement this year. Given the hazy outlook and the fact that under current accounting the group lost money last year, a yield of 8.8 per cent is not a sufficient prop for the shares at 72p.

Speculation is rising again that the Treasury is preparing a package that would somehow link the clearing banks and a reduction in the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement. Talk of a windfall profits tax at a time when bank profits will be falling (even if it might help the banks' negotiating position in the present pay round) may be off mark.

But there is renewed discussion at the Treasury about shifting the £1,400m worth of export credits from the ECSD—and thus the PSBR—on to the clearing banks. This was already mooted in last year's mini Budget and seems more realistic.

In any case the Government has already shifted some of its dollar denominated export credits on the clearing banks and the process could go on. However, there are some difficulties.

Export credits are granted at fixed rates on a scale worked out with the OECD. It tends to range between 7½ to 8½ per cent depending on length and borrower. As banks have to borrow at a far higher rate there would need to be a strong element of interest support grant from the Government.

On the assumption of present interest rates and adjusting for putative administrative costs it could be around 8 per cent. So the effect would be to lower PSBR by probably £1,200m. It would also be medium-term lending, something the banks do not like much. But this apart their balance sheets can certainly take it on. The total of clearing banks is £61,000m and overseas lending is £3,300m, so the shifting of the burden on the banks would increase their overseas lending by around 40 per cent.

How Henry VIII and The Muppets boost the TV companies' revenues



Red Army paratroopers holding Czech cabinet ministers at gunpoint—a scene from Granada's television drama-documentary *Invasion*: the programme was shown in America and has been bought by China.

There are 21 million people in Albania and between them they have 5,000 television sets. In Gibraltar, on the other hand, with some 30,000 inhabitants, one in four owns a set.

What links these two disparate communities is their viewing habits. In recent years they have both been hooked on the adventures of *The Onedin Line*, the BBC's maritime soap opera.

Their fondness for the travels of Captain James Onedin has been shared by the inhabitants of Surinam, Saudi Arabia, Swaziland, Singapore, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bahrain, Nigeria, Norway and The Netherlands Antilles, to mention only a few of the 45 countries which have bought the series.

The Onedin success is dwarfed by the BBC's biggest overseas seller, *The Six Wives of Henry VIII*. The dallies of that corpulent and lusty monarch have so far delighted audiences in 75 countries from Costa Rica to Oman, taking in profitably along the way American networks and syndication systems.

Today, 12 years after it was made, *Henry VIII* remains a popular buy in overseas markets where networks are less conscious of a programme's age than are their United Kingdom counterparts.

American and British companies have dominated the world market in television programmes for the past 20 years, though there is now increasing penetration in the most profitable markets by Australian and other European countries.

For both the BBC and ITV companies involved the fight to sell abroad has taken on a new importance since the past 18 months the BBC's financial difficulties have been well publicised and will not be solved even if the Government sanctions a rise in the colour television licence to £50.

Less well publicised (commercial companies derive no profit from advertising about their falling incomes) is the fact that ITV's advertising revenues are starting to be affected by the recession. Revenue last December was £49,365,444, a fall of 1.9 per cent compared with December, 1979. The 1979 figure was swollen by the return of advertisers after that year's ITV strike, but the performance is nevertheless disappointing.

The advertising slump has

been accompanied by dissipation of audience figures, which recently led Mr Roy Langridge, the media director of J. Walter Thompson, to write to the Independent Television Contractors Association calling for urgent steps to remedy the companies' "lacklustre" schedules.

With the new commercial channel due to come on the air in 1982 and to be financed largely out of ITV revenues, the search for alternative sources of income is as pressing for the independent companies as for the BBC.

The BBC's sales are handled by BBC Enterprises, which also deals with sales of film, video, records and tapes, as well as general merchandising. About 70 per cent of the company's profits in recent years have come from overseas sales.

Turnover increased from £10m in 1978 to £13m last year and the company made a profit of £4m in 1979 and £1.7m last year. The fall is attributable to its recent involvement in financing a wide range of BBC programmes which it will then go on to sell.

All Creatures Great and Small has grossed some £750,000 and the company's high hopes for the detective series *Shoestring*. One of the major series which the

company is financing is *Planet Earth*, a sequel to *Life on Earth*—which will be another three years in the making.

Then there is the BBC's Shakespeare project, which involves filming 37 plays already sold in advance to 27 countries. Three years into the six-year project, sales (in 1979 terms) stand at £4m and are expected to increase healthily.

The ITV companies are more secretive about the amounts they earn from foreign sales, but some idea of how important these sales can be is given by examining individual best sellers. It is known, for example, that *The Muppet Show* (probably the most successful United Kingdom production ever in terms of international exposure) has been sold to more than 100 countries and has grossed more than \$100m in America alone—all of this from five series of 24 episodes each.

Unsinkable Daisies, a very British examination of a very British institution—the class system—has attracted a world-wide attention. Mr Richard Price, managing director of Richard Price Television Associates, a leading sales agent, says that this London Weekend Television series has grossed about \$6m internationally, mainly in America.

Trident Television, which covers both Yorkshire and Tyne Tees, does not reveal earnings, but rates its successes as *The Racing Game* (based on the novels of Sean Connolly, though not yet shown by Channel 4) and *The Sandbaggers*, a spy thriller.

Granada is another company which will not discuss money publicly. Its most recent success has been the dramatized documentary *Invasion*, about the 1968 Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia. This programme was transmitted over the ABC network in America and has been bought, though not yet shown, by China.

All foreign sales involve residual rights fees for the writers and performers negotiating with talent unions both here and in the country of transmission. The fees, which are paid after almost invariably a year, are substantial.

In countries such as New Zealand, where the rates offered for foreign programmes vary only rarely, companies can be faced with selling programmes at a loss after residual rights are taken into account, particularly since the rise in the value of sterling in recent years.

Mr Price says that he will not sell programmes at a loss. "We

will not do a deal unless we can see a fair contribution to the income going to the production company. If 99 per cent of it goes to the unions then we're not going to do the deal.

"One of the amazing things about our business is the fact that it is a buyers' market throughout the world. There are many, many more hours of programme available than there are hours to fill. If you think of somewhere like Denmark, with one channel with about 40 hours of broadcasting a week, it really is an uphill task sometimes."

Straight sales are not the only way of raising cash. The primary role of commercial companies is to provide programmes for the United Kingdom, but this does not prevent foreign involvement in financing.

London Weekend Television's recent *Agatha Christie £500,000 special, Why Didn't They Ask Evans?* was pre-sold to Mobil Oil before production, leaving the finished programme in the oil company's hands in America for showing through the Public Broadcast system or straight-forward commercial syndication.

Despite a lack of critical success the play has sold well and Mobil must be happy with the exercise. The company is involved in a similar deal with LWT to produce another *Agatha Christie* film, *The Seven Dials Mystery*.

This year's Independent Broadcasting Authority handbook notes: "Each year the TV companies are likely to export large numbers of their programmes to countries in every part of the world and make a substantial contribution towards Britain's earnings from the sale of television programmes overseas."

"But it is in terms of what might be called the cultural revenue that the benefits to the country become really significant: the prestige gained by the sale of television programmes, viewed regularly by millions of viewers in Europe, North America and the Commonwealth is of real value."

Such statements are likely to remain the privilege of the IBA, for the companies themselves overseas sales are an increasingly significant source of income and one which, coming as it does from cable, video and satellite broadcasting, will only make more important.

David Hewson

Alan McGregor

Disturbing Switzerland's industrial calm

Geneva The Swiss parliament is again contemplating the case for workers participating in managerial decisions—a concept manifestly regarded by some employers as "unrealistic".

The electorate seemed to be of like mind in March 1976, when it rejected the idea by more than two to one in a national referendum with a 40 per cent turnout.

Voters then had a choice of a proposal for direct participation at board level, put forward by the unions and supported by many Protestant and Roman Catholic clergy, and a counter-proposal, which was more radical, providing for limited participation that would exclude union officials not on a company's payroll.

Compromises have since changed significantly, though the unemployment rate in Switzerland is only about 0.4 per cent compared with 2 per cent even in Japan. This situation is not attributable solely to judicious management. Since 1975 the number of foreign workers has fallen by well over 200,000 to level off at about 630,000 (still more than 20 per cent of the work force).

The majority of those leaving

had no alternative but to return to their countries of origin, mainly in Central and Eastern Europe, where the economic turn-down, they were surplus to requirements and no longer authorized to remain.

However buoyant most of the country's enterprises might be, the recession has affected some of them enough to set off a tremor of unease among the workforce and in the Swiss trade union federation. This body covers some 15 unions with 600,000 members. In a rural labour force of about 2.96 million—7.4 per cent in agriculture and forestry, 39.6 per cent in industry, crafts and the building trade and 53 per cent in service industries.

After losing membership for several years (the 1975 total was 471,000), the federation is trying to broaden support in the still growing services sector.

The three smaller groupings are the Christian Democrats, Catholic (100,000 members) and Evangelical (15,000), and the Agricultural Liberals (22,000). In addition, the line-up of specialized individual unions, including government employees, teachers, printers and railway

men, has an aggregate membership of nearly 150,000.

Altogether, almost 40 per cent of the actively employed have a union or craft guild affiliation.

Whether participation is again to become a serious issue depends on the general assessment of its importance in relation to the long-standing labour peace. This continues to be largely regarded by the public as an equilibrium in employee work relations so crucial to continued prosperity.

The federation's critics see this comfortable prosperity as containing the seeds of its own destruction by engendering complacency. They accuse the federation of slipping into a policy of peace almost at any price, instead of effectively mobilizing labour in support of participation, greater job security, better wages especially for young people and a reduction in working hours.

In a referendum at the end of 1979 four-fifths of voters rejected a proposal for a 40-hour week, only the Socialists favouring it in the four-party government coalition.

If smaller groupings, such as the Christian unions, have shown more initiative, they are lightweights compared with the federation, not least in the eyes of the employers. Its status has grown along with the labour peace itself.

The story begins with the First World War. During that

war the Swiss experienced not only food shortages, but also military conscription. Striked and demonstrations bred an atmosphere in which some people even viewed the outbreak of the Russian Revolution as the precursor of what might happen in Switzerland.

Workers' conferences at Zimmerwald (1915) and Kiental (1916) were marked by the presence of Lenin, who lived in Switzerland from 1914 to 1917. Already in its 1906 statutes the federation had declared itself for the class struggle. By 1918 antagonism between impoverished workers and those doing reasonably well out of the war had attained a pitch at which they no longer had a country in common.

In a brief general strike called by the Olden Committee of trade unionists in November, 1918, an estimated 250,000 workers were confronted by 95,000 soldiers and police. Business and life were paralyzed continuing industrial unrest between the two wars. This culminated in soldiers opening fire on Geneva strikers on November 19, 1919, with 13 deaths and 63 wounded.

In 1937 came a change which was revolutionary in a different sense. Its architect, a union leader and former Marxist who had been a "man of the left" in the 1920s, was Konrad Ilg, president of the large metal and watchmakers union. After seeing what happened to unions under the

Nazi and Fascist he concluded that concepts of laissez-faire and free enterprise were imposing an emotional mental block on both unions and employers.

Trying a fresh approach, he proposed to Ernst Duetli, president of the machine and metal industries employers' association, a plan for labour peace whereby both sides would renounce strikes and lock-outs and agree to resolve disputes by pragmatic negotiations in sincerity and good faith.

He was accused of betraying the cause of the workers, while Duetli was regarded by employers as a coward for a sell-out to labour. Finally, agreements were signed for a binding conciliation system with arbitration as a last resort. Other sectors of industry followed.

Today, collective labour contracts for a minimum of 12 months are negotiated separately for each branch of industry. Preliminaries are invariably in private, with negotiations well advanced before the public proposed new terms to their membership. This prevents the restriction of room for manoeuvre by floods of semi-informed criticism. The process is helped, too, by the country's conservative press.

But all concerned assert, labour peace can no longer be taken for granted. In an era of swift technological change the contracting parties are required to think a long way ahead.

Business Diary: Metro gnomonic • Taking a Liberty

It seems, let enthusiasm a little out of control when the Automobile Association announced that the mini-wonder this age, the Metro, could do 70 miles a gallon.

The news was passed up on airings around the country, by now the Advertising Standards Authority, which may be a patriotic organization but has a job to do, has upped a complaint against the Metro.

The complaint was that the mpg had been achieved in AA's test only at a constant speed of 30 miles an hour. The Metro, it was noted in such a print.

neighbourly, BL has withdrawn the posters that had not already been used, and such explanation in larger letters on those on display.

The company must look for legislation to the fact that other claim that "these six miles (BL) cars outside all the foreign competitors" was upheld. The ASA was true, even in this case issued a proof because substantiation was not immediately forthcoming.

the complainant had objected that though the Metro was able to show the Cherry Hatchback 1.0, the only car in the Datsun range which BL considered a competitor.



David Pike, the new chairman of Liberty's.

There is an old adage that when the accountant walks into the chairman's office, style flies out of the window, and the greater the style of the business he is about to head, the louder the groans it can generate.

At first sight David Pike, the new chairman of Liberty's, who on his own admission was described by his predecessor, Arthur Stewart-Liberty, as a "determined financier", might alarm those perspicacious and discriminating souls who feel most at home in this one of the most famous and "special" stores in the world.

Was it not Pike who as financial director had pushed for the sale of the famous Liberty fabric printing works at Merton Abbey, where generations of exquisite prints had been washed in the River Wandie? Pike takes "full

responsibility for the closure," and admits that at the time "it seemed almost an act of treachery", but says that it just was not profitable.

Pike is a great believer in the long-term good of the company and this end Liberty is to refurbish floors six to nine on Regent Street and to let about 30,000 sq ft as office space.

Pike, 62, joined Liberty's 30 years ago as assistant accountant. He is the first chairman of the store since its founder in 1875 who is neither a Blackmore (the family of the wife of Arthur Liberty) or a Liberty, although the retiring chairman has two sons.

The store suffers the familiar problems of a strong pound and reduced tourist business. They just come in here as though it was the Tower of London," Pike says ruefully. "They don't buy."

Exciting plans for the expansion of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange have been clouded by reports that its president and chief executive officer, Clayton Yeutter, might be moving on. Now the market is breathing a sigh of relief, because Yeutter has just signed a new contract.

Yeutter seemed destined for a Reagan Administration cabinet post. He had senior jobs in both the Nixon and Ford administrations and has served as head of Reagan's agricultural transition team.

The market thought that his future would be as Secretary of Agriculture. But John Black got the job and though Yeutter's contract at the exchange does not expire until the summer, the directors of the exchange were worried that Yeutter might move on nonetheless.

They have now talked him into signing a new three-year contract, backdated to January 1 at a salary reported to be more than \$200,000 a year.

In his 21 years at the exchange Yeutter has presided over a big growth in business volume and difficult and involved negotiations with federal regulators in Washington.

The exchange is to move into a new \$300m office building by the time Yeutter's new contract ends. But Yeutter may not be in Chicago in 1984, anyway, as he may yet be tapped for a Reagan job in the next couple of years.

Keeping him in Chicago now has involved putting a big increase in earnings in his new contract, exchange officials say.

Senator Nino Andreatta, the Italian treasury minister, has succeeded in appointing the chairman and vice-chairman of 60 savings banks—vacancies created in some cases for more than 10 years.

The idea of the posts is to protect the small saver. Andreatta's predecessors qualified as warring factions, and sometimes of other government parties, each put forward candidates for these plum posts of local political patronage. The savings bank movement came to reflect the worst side of Italian party politics.

How did the minister do it? He was helped by short-lists supplied by Carlo Ciampi, governor of the Bank of Italy. He steered clear of the most blatant nominees of local party bosses and chose citizens of local esteem who were nevertheless near to the government parties.

There are fewer Christian Democrats supporters and more sympathizers with the smaller government parties. As an opposition spokesman put it, the Christian Democrat share of the cake has gone down from 50 to 75 per cent.

Feat of Clay casting around for "unnecessary expenditure" John Clay, chairman of Sheffield engineers Johnson & Firth Brown, has decided to dock the company's contribution to the Conservative Party (£5,500 last year). Johnson's pretax profits have halved since the company's money helped Mrs Thatcher into power.

Ross Davies

The distillers prepare to spend their windfall

Derek Harris

Scotch distillers stand to get about £330m this year and probably another £50m in 1982, following the resolution of an eight-year battle over barley purchasing compensation payments.

The delay in compensation payments was caused partly by obstructive wine and grape growing interests.

With all their problems—falling sales in the recession hit home market, declining export production, cutbacks in short-time working and redundancies—the distillers were yesterday anxiously trying to establish how quickly they will get the money.

The question is, what will they do with it when it is paid over? The money, could of course be used to at least modify price increases or even reduce prices.

Rough arithmetic in the industry yesterday indicated that a £20m annual payment—what compensation payment would be in a normal year—was worth about 5p on a bottle of Scotch. But it looks highly unlikely that the near-£40m impact and is hardly likely to stop the 30p a bottle increases

which are now going through the trade.

While companies have not doubt been writing off the additional barley costs which have been incurred from year to year since Britain went into the EEC, it would be logical to use some of the money to ameliorate the high cost of financing stocks.

The other demand on export cash could be for pricing more export effort. This would be appropriate for the compensation is being paid for price differences on malted barley used to make Scotch for export. Those companies making whisky for export will be the greatest beneficiaries from the compensation payments.

Scotch exports last year were 15 per cent down in value compared with the year before, although up 6 per cent in volume. But exports to the £42 United States market were down 13 per cent. So the compensation will be a specific help for a sector of the industry hit by world-market conditions.

Although Scotch has been performing better than other whisky markets, the first seven months of the present financial year were down 21 per cent.

That was caused, not only by the exports decline but by falling sales in the home market.

It led to the loss of some 2,300 jobs in the industry in the past year—largely accounted for by natural wastage and widespread short-time working. Distilling declined by about a third and blending and bottling—the real indicator of sales decline—by some 13 per cent.

Distilling capacity is now working at only 55 per cent of capacity and blending and bottling at 72 per cent of capacity. Last year the industry was operating at 82 per cent capacity.

Further cutbacks in production would still occur as the industry continued to falter—the Chancellor's likely excise impost in the Budget being another expected depression on sales.

What does seem certain is that the distillers themselves are most unlikely to raise prices again this year and, unless cost inflation runs away, the usual annual price increase at the beginning of next year may be forgone given the cushioning of the compensation payments.

What could also happen is that there will be a wave of promotional offers. An Scotch coming through the trade on the home market, which along time to time give away drinks, a price bonus, provided they are keen shoppers.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Profit-taking clips gains in equities

Budget hopes saw equities on the move again yesterday. Market thinking is that Mrs Thatcher's package on March 10, will go some way towards refuelling the economy and that Government help for small businesses will eventually rub off on some of the larger public ones. Nevertheless, dealers complained that turnover remains low and that investors' attention at the start of this new account appears firmly focused on the more speculative second-liners.

Elsewhere, among majors, the continued shortage of stock lent itself to further exaggerated gains, which drew no comparison with the amount of business transacted.

Yesterday's banking figures, which showed a 0.75 per cent increase in sterling M3, were much in line with most expectations and so were largely discounted. However, speculation, showing healthy profits on the day's business, decided it was as good a time as any to sell and prices by the close were closing generally off the top.

Tails was around £1 following the Index, which having gone as high as 6.6 at mid-day, closed 4.6 higher at 485.5.

Gilt, on the other hand, disappointed by Mrs Thatcher's remarks about leaving M.L.R. unchanged under the Budget—and facing applications for the new £100 rate later today—remained in the doldrums. Dealers expect a lukewarm reception for the new stock and all applications should be allocated in full. After the recent glut of Government funding, the institutions seemed to have satisfied their appetite for the time being.

As a result, falls of around £1 were run up by mid-morning, although in long this had been reduced to £0.50 following the money supply figures. In shorts, the story was similar

with nervousness ahead of the figures pushing prices lower, while bear closing after the figures left the market with net gains of an £1 on the day.

Leading industrials made a quiet start, but improved along with the rest of the market although by the close the list appeared mixed. Hawker Siddeley led the way up, with a 6p rise to 278p, followed by

Gestner continued its rally yesterday, rising 1p to 86p, on the back of the chairman's bullish noises, earlier this week, about future growth. Word in the market is that the group is about to launch some new products shortly and a trade link-up with one of its United States competitors is also expected.

BOC International, 2p to 117p and Turner & Newall, a similar figure to 75p. Elsewhere, falls were seen in Becham, 1p to 179p, Glaxo, 2p to 262p and Fisons, 1p to 115p, while profit-taking clipped 3p from Boverats, at 156p. That old favourite, the Dow Jones, was on the move, again climbing 2p to 63p as speculators picked up over 350,000 shares.

The Common Market's gift of a £43m grant brought a flurry of activity to the drinks sector. Amalgamated Distilled Products jumped 7p to 48p with Distillers celebrating a 3p increase to 186p by announcing the return of its Haig Dimple scotch whisky. In breweries, Belhaven slipped 1p to 33p on news of its £1m holiday acquisition, while fading bid hopes clipped 6p from Davenports at 118p.

Two bullish brokers' circulars from Greenwell and Laing & Cruckshank brought a long-awaited return of confidence to the clearing banks.

In spite of all this, turnover remained low and the thin conditions were mainly responsible for the heavy gains. Barclays showed the way with a leap of 15p to 398p, followed by National Westminster 10p to 383p, Midland 8p to 325p and Lloyds similar figure at 331p.

In financials, the interim figure from Guinness Peat were below expectations and the shares tumbled from 124p to 110p before recovering to close at 113p. R. P. Martin continued to benefit from recent figures, advancing 5p to 171p, which, in turn, inspired Mercantile

House 5p to 610p and Mills & Allen 20p to 345p. Profit-taking after a strong run, left Ercine House 13p lower at 32p.

Unitisation plans lifted Australian and International Trust 10p to 126p, with speculative attention helping Brumming Group to a 6p rise at 62p and Hestock Johnson 7p to 64p.

Among companies reporting, disappointing statements and profit contractions had Crouch Group 13p lower at 163p, Sytkone 5p to 166p and City Offices 4p to 102p. But the main dividend, David Macpherson 3p dearer at 72p, with Crest Nicholson's profits expansion leaving it 10p harder at 130p and Ladies Pride Outerwear 1p to 46p. Full-year figures from Plastic Constructions were better than anticipated and the shares rallied 5p to 27p.

Shipping, Manchester Ship Canal continued to reflect its recent trading loss, diving 15p to 173p, while European Ferries advanced 7p to 168p on news of its Spanish acquisition.

Foods had Associated Fisheries tumbling 6p to 54p as the Common Market sorted out its fishing policy. Active support helped Tate & Lyle up

5p to 160p, Northern Foods, 4p to 188p and Argyle Foods, 2p to 118p.

Engineers made further improvements in a thin market, with GKN 3p better at 145p, F. Pratt 8p to 70p and Peter Brotherhood 9p to 161p. Speculative support boosted Chubb 7p to 90p and G. M. Fifth 6p to 62p, while comment helped Vickers 4p to 148p.

Meanwhile, among industrials, Beaton Clark leapt 9p to 103p following a bullish brokers' circular in a thin market.

However, rose 5p to 125p in electricals, anxiously awaiting figures due out soon, with Eurotherm International hardening 6p to 256p on its Scottish expansion plans. Hawthorn

Shares of Metal Box surged ahead in a thin market, leaping 12p to 180p. The reason for the rise was a bullish circular from brokers Laing & Cruckshank who are reported to be recommending the shares as a "buy" to institutional clients.

Leslie was another firm market, climbing 6p to 142p as Starwest all but home and dry, extended its deadline.

Little interest was seen in oils, although among second-liners, Aram Energy advanced 15p to 355p on speculative support.

Equity turnover for February 9 was £118.293m (Bargains, 17.011). Active stocks, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Barclays, Cadbury Sch. Beechams, Cons. Gold and European Ferries.

Traded options: Dealers reported total contracts of 511. Contracts were made in GEC at 25, Lasso a total of 21 and Land Secs, 47.

Tradition options: Dealers reported moderate activity with calls in Premier, Turner and Newall, British Land and Davenports Brewery. A double was made in Lounbo.

Crest Nicholson up 25 pc as interest costs fall

By Catherine Gunn

Crest Nicholson, the industrial holding group with interests ranging from supplying spectacle frames and lenses to house and boat designing, turned in a 25.3 per cent pre-tax profit increase to £5.42m in the year to October 31. As promised at the time of the £2m rights issue in June, the final dividend has been maintained at 3.7p a share, gross on the increased capital.

The shares leapt 10p to 132p immediately after the results.

Mr David Donne, the chairman, said the difference between a 12.5 per cent rise in turnover to £48.4m and the much higher profit increase lay in much lower interest costs following the reduction of borrowings to only £275,000 at the year-end.

The figures included a full-year contribution from optical business Crofton, against nine months the previous year. Crofton was one of the group's better performers during 1979-



Mr David Donne, chairman of Crest Nicholson.

Mr Donne said all parts of the group did well in difficult markets, but for boatbuilding which made a loss. Of marine interests held up well in spite of lower volume.

With the exception of boatbuilding, the group has got some protection from worst of this recession. Donne sees no evidence of economic recovery yet, when it comes he expects boatbuilding to do well, group contracts out its big work but looks after design, and planning.

Crest Nicholson will not slash current cost accounts year, Mr Donne said they were irrelevant to the group's assets but said that with a base it had little to lose from CCA. He expressed confidence that Crest Nicholson would perform well this year in spite of tough conditions. Meanwhile, the group could look out for non-capital intensive additions to its plants.

New Belhaven acquisition

By Rosemary Unsworth

Belhaven Brewery Group, headed by Mr Eric Morley, is paying £1m for its second holiday camp acquisition since the new year.

The group is paying the consideration for Dees Holiday Camp, a family controlled business near Lowestoft, Suffolk, with 49.8 per cent in cash and the remainder through the issue of shares.

Dees has net tangible assets of £7,000 and the pretax profits for the year to January 31, 1981, are expected to be a little more than £100,000. If the excess of current liabilities over current assets in the balance sheet at January 31, 1981, was less than £34,000, the consideration will be increased. Conversely, it will be decreased

Rise of 4pc at Ladies Pride

By Our Financial Staff

Ladies Pride Outerwear ended the year to November 30 with pretax profits on per cent higher at £1.1 after an increase of 14 per cent to £580,000 at the half stage.

Sales of the group's dresses and fabrics increased from £7.98m to £8.26m, shares rose 1p to 46p.

At the interim stage, chairman, Mr Frank Rol said that all the group's stores were fully committed for the autumn. He now says the current season has seen significant downturn in volume of sales, of between 10 and 15 per cent. This will influence profitability for half year to May 31.

As forecast at the half, the dividend has been a fall on the share capital enlarged by the scrip giving an effective dividend increase of 20 per cent to gross.

The chairman says that depends on the economic conditions in the months to come. The board is said to be in vigorous action to restore volumes and the company a strong liquid position.

The tax charge was £34 compared with £602,000 in total payments at last year. The earnings were 6.74p, reduced to an adjusted 7.41p in 1979.

Briefly

Yearling bonds: This weeks coupon on local authority bonds is down to 12.3 per cent from last weeks level of 12.5 per cent. This is the lowest figure for 16 months.

RMC expands: Ready mixed concrete group has increased its interest in the security sector business with the acquisition of three more businesses.

Webber Electrocomponents: Dividend 3.5p for year to September 30. Turnover £704,000. Pre-tax profit £162,000. At time of placing in February 1980 gross profit was forecast at not less than £140,000.

Broadstone Investment Trust: Gross revenue for 1980, £1.84m (£1.87m). Pre-tax profit £1.64m (£1.69m). Eps 7.35p (6.59p). Dividend 7.1p (7.35p). Nav 265.4p (194.0p).

Assam Frontier Tea Holdings: Caparo Group has increased its holding in Assam Frontier Tea Holdings, 173,000 ordinary shares (18.4 per cent).

Samuel Webster & Sons (subsidiary of Grand Metropolitan): Sales for year to Sept 27, 1980, £46.77m (£54.62m). Pre-tax profit, £5.64m (£3.3m).

Plastic Constructions: Turnover for year to Sept 30, 1980, £10.83m (£10.65m). Pre-tax profit £1,222,000 (£1,222,000). Total dividend unchanged at 3.8p gross. Board reports that since the year-end, there has been further strengthening of industry in home market. The company is directing additional sales efforts towards exports.

Crescent Japan Investment Trust: Net revenue for 1980 £65,000 (£246,000). After tax, Eps 1.79p (£2.79p). Nav 238.2p (169.6p). Dividend 0.55p (2.5p).

F and C Eurotrust: Gross income for half year to December 31 (£107,000). Pre-tax profit £8,000 (£95,000) after expenses and interest £100,000 (£72,000). Eps 0.05p (0.72p). Nav 63.2p (62.1p).

William Jackson and Son: Turnover half year to September 27, £56.42m (£56.38m). Pre-tax profit £1,057m (£1,087m).

J. Rothchild & Company: a subsidiary of RIT, is planning a major expansion of its financial services activities by entering the fast-growing factoring business in the United Kingdom.

Three US firms join petroleum exchange

By Michael Prest

Three US firms, the mounting interest in the new London International Petroleum Exchange came yesterday when the IPE's directors announced that it would consider applications for trade membership. It is understood that several leading oil companies, including British Petroleum and Ultramar, have applied.

Speaking yesterday, Mr Robin Woodhead, chairman of the new exchange, which is due to start trading on April 6, said that three American firms, Bache, Halsey Stuart, E. F. Hutton and Merrill Lynch, had just become floor-members.

Mr Woodhead expected that by the end of the year committees could be investigating the introduction of new contracts. The present contract is in heating oil, Naphtas, benzene, heavy oil and even petrol have all been suggested.

Consideration to new petroleum contracts is already being given in New York and Chicago. The Chicago Board of Trade has applied to the Com-

Recession hits Crouch Group

By Roman Eisenstein

Crouch Group, the property development and construction company, has been badly hit by the recession in the United Kingdom. The profits before tax figure of £231,000 for the half year to the end of September conceal heavy losses in

Starwest called on to raise offer

By Rosemary Unsworth

R. & W. Hawthorn Leslie has called on Starwest Investment Holdings, which has made a 130p-a-share bid for the group, to increase its offer or withdraw it.

The move follows Starwest's decision to extend its £3.5m offer for two weeks to February 23 and the disclosure that it has received acceptance for only 3.14 per cent of the ordinary shares. This brings Starwest's stake in Hawthorn Leslie to 44.6 per cent, including the shares it held before the bid was announced and those purchased since then.

The Office of Fair Trading

Syltöne hopes maintain pay

By Our Financial Staff

Syltöne, the Bradford engineer and electrical sales, still hopes to avoid dividend cut this year despite interim profits plunging more than three-fifths £319,000 pre-tax.

During the half-year September 30, Syltöne saw declining sales in all its United Kingdom and export sales held up despite the world recession.

A same-again interim 2.5p gross is announced, the group intends to maintain the dividend at last year's level of 12.6p gross, "pro that profitability does deteriorate further."

Mr John Clegg, chairman, says that measures taken the half-year to improve profitability, such as restructuring, included short-term wage and for the first time a group's history of a reduction in the total force.

First-quarter loss at Johnson & Firth Brown

Sheffield-based engineering group, Johnson & Firth Brown, which saw its profits slump in the year to September 30, 1980, is still facing tough trading.

At yesterday's annual meeting, Mr J. M. Clegg, the chairman, told shareholders that a loss was incurred in the first quarter of the current year. The board has had to consider every possibility to improve matters—there already being some redundancy, and further redundancies are expected in those parts of the business most hard hit.

He warned that if the board had to make a decision now on any interim dividend, there could be little doubt as to the outcome. The board does not have to decide until June, but "nevertheless, I cannot, at this time, be optimistic about our decision to pay a dividend."

The year to September 30 was an interim of 1.85p gross, but no final.

Another peak for City Offices

Pretax profits of City Offices Co reached a best-ever £1.9m last year, compared with the previous record of £1.35m in 1979. However, the tax charge is more than doubled, to £788,000, against £326,000 and so earnings per share have fallen from 3.97p to 2.6p. However, the total gross dividend is being raised from 4.23p to 4.42p a share.

Extraordinary items of £742,000 (£229,000 in 1979) are being transferred to capital reserve.

Amax sharply higher despite poor finish

By Michael Prest

Mining Correspondent

Despite a fourth quarter profits dip, Amax, the American mineral resources company, raised net earnings last year by 28.9 per cent to £470m (£200m). Earnings a share were £7.48 compared with £6.49.

The rise in profitability can be measured from the relatively modest increase in total sales from £2,860m to £2,940m. But a sharp fall in sales occurred in the final three months, the figure declining by about \$64m to \$705m.

Earnings a share in the last quarter slipped from \$1.82 to \$1.35 reflecting a sharp decline from \$103m to \$83.7m. Results from Rosario Resources, the mining company Amax bought at the beginning of 1980, are included for all but the first quarter.

Lower nickel and copper

Wilmot team raises £2m to take over

By Margaret Pagano

The management team of Wilmot Breeden Electronics has raised the £2m finance needed to purchase the company from its parent, Rockwell International.

The six directors have received financial backing from Technical Development Capital, a branch of IFCI, Barclays Development Capital and Barclays Merchant Bank. The directors, led by Mr Alan Dennis, have themselves purchased 4 per cent of the equity. The financial backers each provided 50 per cent of the remainder.

The directors put in a bid for the company last summer when Rockwell decided to sell because of geographic and product differences between Wilmot Breeden Electronics and the rest of the company. After several prospective buyers fell through, the management team went in search of financial backing. The deal was agreed in principle last August.

Two companies in WBE are: Wayne Kerr, which develops and manufactures electronic testing equipment, and Rendar, a maker of precision electronic components, jointly reported in the last calendar year sales of £5m and pretax profits of about £500,000. Sales in the current year are forecast for £6.5m. The new company will be known as WKR.

Mr David Horner, the finance director, said the reaction to the sale had been very favourable from both Rockwell and the employees. Rockwell bought WBE in 1979.

Bank Bas Rates

Bank	Rate
ABN Bank	10.00
Barclays	10.00
BCCI	10.00
Consolidated Crdis	10.00
C. Hoare & Co	10.00
Lloyds Bank	10.00
Midland Bank	10.00
Nat Westminster	10.00
Rossminster	10.00
TSB	10.00
Williams and Glyn's	10.00

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT BORROWING REQUIREMENT

Month	Monthly total £m	Cumulative total £m
1979-80		
January	2,450	7,720
February	2,450	10,170
March	157	10,327
1980-81		
April	834	9,493
May	2,354	11,847
June	1,231	13,078
July	624	13,702
August	1,882	15,584
September	7,685	23,269
October	148	23,417
November	2,732	26,149
December	2,330	28,479
1981		
January	1,714	30,193

BANK FIGURES

Month	Eligible liabilities £m	Reserve over 2000m annual rate	Reserve ratio
Jan	52,937	13.5	13.2
Feb	52,665	4.9	13.2
March	52,779	9.0	13.1
April	54,297	10.8	13.2
May	56,216	10.9	13.1
June	58,445	10.9	13.0
July	61,457	10.6	13.2
Aug	62,137	11.0	13.2
Sept	63,441	11.3	13.4
Oct	62,275	11.3	13.0
Nov	66,003	11.4	13.6
Dec	67,495	11.8	13.5
1981			
Jan	68,041	11.4	13.1

Golf complex bought by European Ferries

In a multi-million pound move into leisure and sport, European Ferries, the shipping and ports group which includes Townsend Thoresen car ferries, has acquired one of Europe's finest two-course golf complexes, La Manga Campo de Golf, where it has plans to develop sporting facilities and build 1,500 villas for sale. Funding requirements for an undisclosed sum have been arranged by the Royal Bank of Canada.

La Manga is situated on the Costa Blanca and has staged the Spanish Open Golf Cham-

Earnings fall for Bougainville Copper

Papua New Guinea's Bougainville Copper, the major stake, made net earnings of Kina 71.5m (£46.7m), compared with K83.9m in 1979. The company warns that earnings are likely to fall further in 1981. A final dividend of eight pence a share has been declared, making 16 pence for the year. Falling head grades were offset by higher metal prices, particularly for gold and silver. Production in 1980 fell by about 74,000 tonnes to 510,397 dry tonnes of concentrate.

Business appointments

Mr Hugh Collum has become deputy group finance director of Embassy Schweppes.

Mr Jim Grayson has been made deputy managing director of Centre-File, the computer subsidiary of National Westminster Bank.

Mr Graeme Scott is to become director of British in succession to Mr George James, deputy chairman and managing director. Mr Ianman is to relinquish the post of managing director but will remain deputy chairman of British and a

Schwepes names finance chief

director of Showers, Vine Products and Whiteways.

Mr Peter Lightfoot is to join the Frederick Parker group as financial director (designate).

Mr Cyril English, deputy chief general manager of Nationwide Building Society, has been nominated to succeed Mr Leonard Williams and chief general manager.

Mr Dumbrell will succeed Mr K. A. J. Sugars as chairman and managing director of STP Thredwell.

Mr Francis Bennett is the new group managing director of Thomson Books.

Prince Michael of Kent is to join the board of Standard Telephones and Cables.

Dr R. A. A. Hurst has been made manager of the group patents and trade marks department of Thorn EMI. He also becomes a director of Thorn EMI Patents.

Mr Colin H. M. McAusland has been named production director for Hecman Drives, a member of the Redman Hecman International group.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980-81 High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Gross Div (%)
75	39	Airsprung Group	63	+1	6.7	10.6
44	21	Armitage & Rhodes	42	-1	1.4	3.3
192	92	Bardon Hill	190	+1	9.7	5.1
98	88	Deborah Services	95	+1	5.5	5.8
126	83	Frank Horsell	109	-1	6.4	5.9
110	52	Frederick Parker	52	-1	11.0	21.2
110	74	George Blair	74	-	3.1	4.2
110	59	Jackson Group	107	-	6.9	6.4
124	103	James Burrough	120	+1	7.9	6.6
334	244	Robert Jenkins	330	-	31.3	9.5
53	50	Scruttons "A"	53	-	5.3	10.0
224	215	Torday Limited	216	+1	15.1	7.0
23	10	Twinkl Ord	12	-4	-	-
90	69	Twinkl 15% ULS	72	-4	15.0	20.8
56	35	Unilock Holdings	38	+1	3.0	7.9
103	81	Walker Alexander	102	-	5.7	5.6
261	181	W. S. Yates	260	-	12.1	4.7

مكتبة الزمان

Commodities

Commodity fund delayed

A second account is intended to help developing countries which export raw materials through research and development projects.

Mr McIntyre said that total voluntary pledges for the second account now stood at \$233m. against a target of \$280m. No country has yet ratified the agreement but Unctad said the fund could start operating early next year.

The Bank of England gave help on a large scale yesterday to relieve a shortage of funds. This assistance was channelled via purchases of a large quantity of bills: a small quantity of Treasury Bills, small number of local authority bills, and a moderate amount of eligible bank bills.

These were all bought direct from the houses.

The dollar finished with widespread gains on foreign exchanges yesterday. Fears of increased labour unrest in Poland following the supreme court's ruling that farm workers do not have the right to form trade unions put late pressure on the German mark.

In turn this dragged other currencies down. Earlier, firmer European rates in Clubgold decision not to follow Germany's Guaranty dollar was an agent

Prime rate strengthened the dollar.

Seeding fared far better than other currencies, underpinned by the view that interest rates will not be coming down before the Reserve Bank's next meeting.

The pound was finally just 30 points off at 23370 against the dollar, while the effective exchange rate index closed 0.1 up at 104.2.

The mark, firm at first before London Far East markets, dropped as low as 2.1245 to the dollar before

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates today's average	February 10	Market rates today's average
New York	\$2,330-3455	Feb. 23	\$2,335-35
Montreal	\$2,780-8040	Feb. 23	\$1,797-8
Amsterdam	\$3,480-4810	Feb. 23	\$3,424-440
Frankfurt	\$2,805-8055	Feb. 23	\$2,805-8055
Copenhagen	\$2,362-422x	Feb. 23	\$2,360-410
Dublin	1,3735-7400p	Feb. 23	1,3470-3430
Frankfurt	4,365-8400	Feb. 23	5,014-2200
London	\$2,330-3310	Feb. 23	\$2,330-3310
Madrid	128.70-193.10	Feb. 23	138.85-86
Milan	2266.78-78	Feb. 23	2237.5-75
Paris	12,61-6810	Feb. 23	12,68-6870
Rome	12,61-6810	Feb. 23	12,68-6870
Stockholm	70.70-76x	Feb. 23	70.74-75x
Tokyo	472-4680	Feb. 23	476-475x
Vienna	36.35-6000x	Feb. 23	36.52-67x
Zurich	4,915-571	Feb. 23	4,934-567

Other Markets

Australia	1.9990-2.0140
Bahrain	6.8805-6.8835
Finland	9.4235-9.4628
Greece	117.05-119.03
Hongkong	12.2485-12.3885
Iran	not available
Juwait	6.5370-6.5400
Malaysia	5.22-5.26
Mexico	54.20-55.70
New Zealand	2.4650-2.4840
Saudi Arabia	7.7785-7.8086
Singapore	4.8415-4.8725
South Africa	1.7835-1.7885

Indices

	Bank of England Index	German Guarant. Changes
Sterling	104.2	+23.0
U.S. dollar	98.4	+4.4
Canadian dollar	84.7	+13.6
Schilling	113.7	+31.1
Belgian franc	107.9	+10.1
Danish kroner	89.6	+9.7
Deutsche mark	117.9	+37.7
Swiss franc	133.0	+72.6
Guilder	112.5	+16.0
French franc	100.0	+5.5
Lira	61.5	+53.3
Yen	148.0	+44.8

Collar Spot

ates		Rat
Ireland	1.795-1.7355	Bank of E
Canada	1.1953-1.1996	(Last cha
Netherlands	2.3282-2.3208	Clearing
gium	3.45-34.54	Discoun
Germany	4.9923-5.5075	Overnigh
mark	2.1300-2.1315	Week Fiv
ugal	56.00-56.15	
in	10.0-10.35	
ain	1016-1017	
Italy	2.4175-5.4225	
Sweden	2.9330-4.9550	
Den	4.3950-4.6000	
pan	203.90-204.10	
aria	15.25-15.24	
		Buying
		2 months

Key Market

5
Base MLR 14%
ed 14/11/80)
aks Base Rate 14%
ht Loans %
High 14 Low 13
13%
Treasury Bills (Bldg)
12% Selling
 3 months 12%
12% 3 months 12%

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% from 1990
Belgian franc	39.7897	41.6780	+
Danish krone	7.7236	7.9847	+
German D-mark	4.8208	6.0019	+
French franc	5.84700	5.98331	+
Dutch guilder	2.74362	2.82086	+
Irish punt	0.588202	0.687115	+
	1.6733	1.93635	+

Euro-\$ Deposits

(c) calls, 16-17: seven days.
14-15: one month. 17-17:
three months, 16-17: six
months, 16-17.

Gold

and fixed: ant. \$517.75 (an ounce); 3 months
 h. \$519.50 close. \$514.50.
 rocket and per cent: \$529-532 First
 226.25-227.75. 3 months
 overseas (new): \$130-132 (55.50- Finance
 1.50).

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

[illegible]

هكذا من الأهل

\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

[illegible]

* Ex dividend, a Ex alt, b Forecast dividend, c Correction price, d Interim payment passed, e Price at suspension of Dividend and yield exclude a special payment, f Bid for company, g Pre-merger figure, h Forecast earnings, i F capital distribution, j Ex rights, k Ex coupon share split, l Tax free, m Price adjusted for late dealings, n % Significant daily.

RECENT ISSUES		Closing Price
Amalgamated Lumber Corp. Feb 1929 (c)		100.00
Ball A. 1928-1929		100.00

Chesmer Water 9c, Red Pref 1943 (1)	2108
Dunbar Group 11 Ord. 503	320
Fox Anglian Water 9c, Red Pref 1943 (1)	2109
East-Wincoburn Water 9c, Red Pref 1943 (1)	2110
Fox Water 9c, Red Pref 1943 (1)	2111
Exchequer 12c (Inv. 1943) (1)	2112

Echequer 12/1/88 A 11/1/88
 Echequer 12/1/88 B 11/1/88
 Lon Merchant Sacs 1/2 Cnt Ln 2000-PS
 New Tokyo Inv Truq 31p Ord
 Portal 12/1/88 Cnt 2400-2000
 Treasury 12/1/88 A 11/1/88
 Treasury 12/1/88 2001-2000

RIGHTS ISSUES	Last date of reman	premi-3
Argyll Foods (88)	Mar 71	premi-3
Neogros (60)		premi-3

Issue price in parentheses. * Fr. dividend.
 † Issued to lender, ‡ Full paid a \$50 paid b. \$10 paid. ‡
 Full paid. c \$40 paid. h \$20 paid.

Journal of Management Education 30(6)p.789-804
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